THE INDEPENDENT

ON SATURDAY

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A foetus's pain exposes raw nerves in the battle over abortion



An image of a 24-week-old foetus from the book A Child is Born by photographer Lennart Nilsson

Aborted babies may be able to feel pain. The announcement by gynaecologists comes just days before the 30th anniversary of the 1967 Mortion Act. Glenda oper, Social Affairs correspondent, on the ontinuing controversy ver whether foetuses

at a foctus may be able to feel

im from 26 weeks. The college yesterday dis-

, bitter feud between pro- and ati-abortion campaigners was vived vesterday after a report the Royal College of Obstecians and Gynaecologists said

lier, while the pro-choice lobby says there is already no possi-

bility of it feeling pain because of the way late terminations are carried out.

The pro-choice lobbyists say that the cortex - the upper part of the brain - does not devel-

life and pro-choice campaign-

ers. Pro-lifers claim that the

closed scientific evidence that op fully until 26 weeks and is esthe development of the nervous sential for pain sensations.

But the pro-lifers argue that system, which might enable a foetus to feel pain, begins at the cortex is responsible for a around the 26th week of gesta-"great deal less than people imagine", and that the thalamus, tion. It was the first time the Royal College has issued guidepart of the brain's primitive lines on pain during abortions. brain structures, could play a vital part in experiencing pain. stressing that the foetus should be protected from any potential Last year a report supported by the Parliamentary Pro-Life painful or harmful procedures. Foetal pain is the critical group said that a foetus may feel pain by the 10th week of life. point of argument between pro-

The college's study was carried out by a working party of foetus can feel pain much earmedical experts, scientists, lay people, a theologian and a lawyer. It advises doctors to consider using an anaesthetic for unborn babies when carrying out a termination at or after 24 weeks - to allow any discrepancy as to the exact age of the child.

place after 24 weeks, the normal legal limit for terminations, and if they do they are usually because of severe foetal abnormality such as heart defects. Of the 177,225 abortions carried out last year, 653 were

performed at 23 or 24 weeks and 92 at 25 weeks or over. Professor Anne McLaren, who chaired the working group, said it had "looked at the scibefore 26 weeks there was no

awareness of pain". "This should reassure the overwhelming minority of women who have a termination at this late stage that there is no possibility of the foetus feeling are saying to doctors is that after 24 weeks they should con-

analgesia. We don't know what the effect of an analgesia would be on the child and it is difficult to find out. One of our recommendations is that more research is done on intervention with or without analgesia."

Pro-life campaigners said that the acceptance a foetus could suffer pain was a step in the right direction but that it did not go far enough. Jack Scarisentific evidence and found that brick, of the pro-life charity Life who sat on Lord Rawlinson's commission into abortion issues, described the report as "simply a way of anaesthetising the consciences of doctors and the

whole of society". "There is a gradual slope up pain," she added. "What we to pain, so if we are to try and avoid pain we should anaesthetise much earlier than 25 Very few abortions take sider giving some sort of weeks. If our object is to avoid

pain, then maybe [we should do it 10 weeks earlier," he added. The director of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC), John Smeaton said: "Although we welcome any acceptance of the humanity of the unborn child,

tient being shows that rather than giving anaesthetics we should not have abortion at all," But Ann Furedi, director of the pro-choice charity the Birth Control Trust, said there was already no possibility of a foetus feeling pain because of the way

terminations are carried out. She said: "In abortions at and after 20 weeks, the foetal heart is always stopped prior to the abortion so there is already no possibility that the foetus

Name, address, number - all on Big Brother's CD

CD-Rom will next week mark an uncomfortable watershed in the information age in Britain. A £170 electronic UK phone directory from an American company will hold 42 million names, addresses and phone numbers - searchable by telephone number. street name and town to yield details you may have wanted to keep private.

The Boston company, i-CD Publishing, insists that it will enrich peoples' lives, by saving them money on directory enquiries calls which earn BT £125m annually, while business will get a "better deal for the customers". It expects to sell four million copies in the UK over the next 12 months.

However, BT and the Data Protection Registrar are deeply unhappy about the implications of such "reverse search" facilityin a phone directory. In the US, where reverse searching has been available for about five years, people regularly complain that meals are interrupted by unwanted phone calls from marketing companies.

But other aspects to the facility may be unwelcome too. Phil Jones, an assistant data protection registrar, said: "It's unfair to teleibone customers to introduce this, because it alters their control of private information they have given out in the past. If you put your phone number in an advert selling your car, do you want every motor dealer in the area turning up on

At i-CD, the UK sales manager, Alastair Crawford, said yesterday that such a disc, which has been compiled from electoral roll data and many companies' telephone number data, is an inevitable outcome of the information revolution.

"We're like a motorway we get people together. We can't predict or control what will happen when they do." he said.

Selling the CD-ROM in Britain does not break any UK data protection laws, because the actual database was compiled abroad, Mr Jones said.

BT said last night that it will investigate the disc to see whether it breaks its copyright. Over the years, BT has strenuously opposed attempts by rival companies to introduce such systems. But it says this is not simply defending its near-monopoly on directory enquiry data. "People have to be asked if they want to be listed in our directory. They don't have that option here," said a

Both organisations said the likeliest effect is that more people will go ex-directory. Already 56 per cent of Londoners are unlisted. People will be able to remove themselves from the list via an Internet site that i-CD will run at ииw.192.com. But the company has already decided that openness has its limits: it has voluntarily excluded data on Northern Ireland. — Charles Arthur,

Science Editor



INSIDE TODAY



ISM/ Our new magazine TIME OFF/ Sport, travel & leisure YOUR MONEY/ Personal finance, property & cars THE EYE/ Your full weekly television guide



WENTHER Time Off, page 2 TELEVISION The Eye CROSSWORD Time Off, page 12

Web address: http://www.

TODAY'S NEWS

Brown to explain

The Chancellor, Gordon Brown, will make a statement to the Commons on Monday setting out the Government's policy towards a single currency. The Treasury said the Government was "acting decisively to stop speculation by making the statement ... at the earliest possible opportunity". Page 4

FA accuses Italy

The FA accused the Italian authorities of deliberately intimidating English supporters in a 50-page report on the trouble that marred England's World Cup qualifier in Rome this month. The FA said it believed that the overwhelming majority of England supporters conducted themselves with great restraint.

Children under curfew

Police and politicians are congratulating themselves on the opening night of what is, in all but name, a curfew on the streets of Britain. The Independent watched the operation on housing estates in the Scottish town of Hamilton as eight youngsters were picked up by police and returned to their parents.

New rights for Britons The Government took the first step towards enshrining

the protection of human rights in British law. Under proposals set out in a White Paper, people who believe their rights under the European Convention on Human Rights have been violated will, for the first time, be able to seek redress through the British courts. Page 10

SEEN & HEARD

The Spanish dictator Franco, who ruled for 40 years, was less successful in his first attempted romantic conquest. In 33 postcards from 1913, auctioned last night in Madrid, the pint-sized future despot pours his heart out to the teenage daughter of the officer commanding the Spanish African outpost of Melilla. "I love you greatly or rather very, very much," the 20-year-old secondlieutenant writes. Franco, who won medals in Spain's doomed campaign against Morocco, was no Don Juan. He courted Sofia Subiran, 15, with what she described as "exquisite delicacy", but she was put off by his highpitched voice, stiffness and lack of poise. "I didn't like Franco," she said years later. "I was very pretty ... He was serious, too serious ... He was clumsy, poor thing."

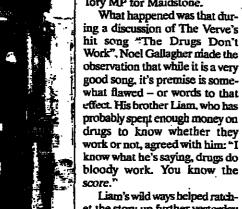


Young rockers unleash drug-fired frenzy

Radio 1's audience figures may show that the station is in decline, but it still manages to have a very surprising sweep of listeners. Every moralist in the country, from Ann Widdecombe to Mary Whitehouse, appears to have been tuning into Steve Lamacq's Late Night Session when he interviewed the Gallagher brothers on Thursday night

At least one would think so from the veritable queue of outraged renta-quotes who lined up yesterday to condemn the BBC for airing a live interview where Noel and Liam advocated the legalisation of drugs and used earthy language. Mr Lamacq, who lost control of the interview while the brothers attacked old rockers and each other, made the eminently sensible suggestion that listeners offended by what they were hearing should switch off their radios. This was obviously missed by Miss Widdecombe: "This is utterly appalling and the BBC should hold an inquiry to estab-

> lish what happened," foamed the Tory MP for Maidstone.



Liam's wild ways helped ratchet the story up further yesterday when he chased reporters away from his North London home and threatened to stick a camera

down a photographer's throat. The BBC has apologised for any offence caused by the show and has said it would investigate the broadcast.

The mother of teenage Ecstasy victim Leah Betts seemed to have forgotten the history of rock music over the last 30 years when she condemned Oasis as a uniquely Nineties phenomenon: "I feel very sad and concerned for young people today. They look up to people like Oasis and no-one warns them of the other side."

Despite the fact that Noel Gallagher has had a beer with Tony Blair he has some way to go before he becomes as respectable as some of the old farts - or Sixties rock legends - he condemns. The Rolling Stones has a brand of Volkswagen named after them and corporate tour sponsors. Paul McCartney is now Sir Paul McCartney.

Yet once the Rolling Stones were being arrested and condemned for using drugs, urinating against walls and abusing Mars bars. Their fans threatened the very fabric of society by slashing the fabric upholstery in concert halls where they played.

Even "nice" Paul McCartney has seen the inside of a Japanese police cell, after he was arrested there with enough grass to get Coventry stoned. In a recent documentary Liam Gallagher made the startlingly obvious point that anyone who was as rich and famous as him at 23 would enjoy themselves as much as he does.

--- Paul McCann

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PEOPLE



Woman disfigured after surgery wins £20,000

A woman left with disfigured breasts after treatment for leaking silicone implants won £20,636 damages vesterday. Christine Williamson, 48 (above, with her daughter, Dawn), was awarded the compensation for a hospital's failure to obtain her consent for surgery involving the removal of her right breast and much of her chest muscle. Her left breast was also left scarred by the surgery at London's St Bartholomew's Hospital in April 1994, the High Court in London heard. Mrs Williamson, of Clapton, east London, was

a psychologically vulnerable woman whose breasts were of "paramount" importance to her, said Mr Justice Butterfield. He found that the operation was, or would have become, necessary at some stage. But Mrs Williamson, who gave evidence that she would have run from the hospital has she known it was planned, did not give her consent.

"Accordingly she is entitled to an award for the pain and suffering that such negligent failure entitles her," the judge said.

The damages were awarded against the hospi-

tal trust (The Royal Hospital of St Bartholomew. The Royal London Hospital and The London Chest Hospital NHS Trust), which had denied negligence.

Mrs Williamson had the silicone implants inserted in 1979. She began to suffer breast hardening in 1982 and had a number of corrective procedures. In December 1992, she consulted Bart's plastic surgeon, James Harvey-Kemble, complaining she had lost all her confidence as a woman and her marriage was on the rocks because of the continuing problem. She complained that her husband said she was not the wornan he married and their sexual relationship was difficult because she was nervous about not pleasing him.

Rejecting her negligence claim against the surgeon, the judge said Mrs Williamson was confused in her recollection that the surgeon had told her there was nothing he could do and she should go home and live with it. The judge criticised the failure of another Bart's plastic surgeon, Mrs Dalia Nield, properly to inform Mrs Williamson of her intention to carry out radical surgery in 1994.

rather than beating our brains out

to get round the Orkneys we

would head for home." The 35-

year-old captained the first all-fe-

male crew in the Whitbread

Round the World race and holds

the record for the fastest all-fe-

Despite this week's defeat.

she said she would continue to

pursue other yachting records

`"I know we've got a great boat

and a great crew and although the

girls are obviously disappointed we

are all remaining positive," she

said. "We will get home, do some

repairs and maybe think about repeating this challenge a bit later."

and paid tribute to her team.

male transatlantic crossing.

Female crew abandons sail record bid

Yachtswoman Tracy Edwards and her all-female crew have abandoned their attempt to shatter the world record for sailing round Britain and Ireland.

The team, who needed to complete the 1787 mile course within five days, 21 hours, five minutes and 27 seconds, decided to head home after struggling against bad weather off the Orkneys.

Ms Edwards said: "Basically the weather was against us. We

Schoolboy died

A public schoolboy who died af-

ter his car crashed during a police

chase was over the legal drink-

drive limit, an inquest was told yes-

terday. Toxicology tests on the

body of Julian Elwell, a 17-year-

old hoarder at the £12,750-a-year

drink-driving

there was no way we were going to be able to beat the record.

"We have had an incredibly frustrating day with the wind on spoke with our weather experts the nose and we just decided that

of blood, above the legal limit of

Coroner Victor Round said at Worcester magistrates court that the sixth former died from shock and haemorrhage due to multiple injuries. Coroner's officer Robert Taylor told the court that Julian's father, Jonathen Elwell, of Virginia Water, Surrey, identified his son's body at Newtown hospital Malvern College, showed a blood two days after the tragedy. The in-

— Amanda Kelly

Julian died last Saturday when his car collided with a gate post outside his lodgings. West Mercia police said an officer in a patrol car stopped to talk to Julian, who was sitting in his car outside a pub in Malvern. He then drove off at high speed, pursued by the patrol car. An investigation into his death will be supervised by the Police Complaints Authority.

by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman







UPDATE

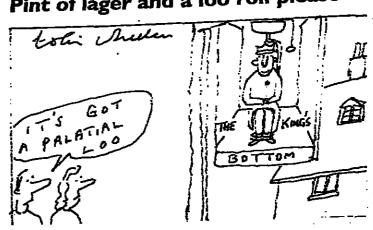
HEALTH

Disabled people support cannabis

A quarter of disabled people are taking cannabis with their doctors' approval, a study revealed yesterday. The survey found 195 of the 200 disabled acceleration of the control of the con abled people questioned believe cannabis should be legalised. Almost 70 abled people questioned believe cannabis should be legalised. Family per cent said they had taken the drug – 39 per cent were men and 61 per cent said they had taken the drug – 39 per cent were men and 61 per cent were women. A quarter said their doctors approved on them using cent were women. A quarter said their doctors approved on them using cent were women. A quarter said their doctors approved on them using cent were women. the drug, according to the survey in the journal Disability Now.

The people most likely to use cannabis were those with multiple sciprid rosis or spinal injuries or diseases, according to the study. One responshe dent said: "It helps take my mind off the pain. I have less spasms in my spine and it helps me breathe easier. It also helps me relax a little." Another said: "Cannabis is essential when everything else has failed, including physiotherapy, pain relief machines and drugs." The journal carried out the survey after the issue of using cannabis for medicinal purposes was raised at the British Medical Association conference earlier this year.

Pint of lager and a loo roll please



A clean well-equipped loo is more important to us when we visit our local boozer than a good selection of quality tipples or a friendly greeting from the bar staff, according to new research. Nearly 70 per cent of drinkers interviewed by the Scottish & Newcastle chain put a spotless toilet, furnished with a decent supply of loo rolls, top of their list of needs when visiting a pub. This was followed by 61 per cent who said they wanted polite service and just over a half who objected to queue jumpers stealing their place at the bar.

ENVIRONMENT

Car pollution study launched

A five-year study was launched yesterday to investigate the threat of pollution particles, believed to be linked to thousands of deaths each year. British Lung Foundation scientists will aim to find out why particulates - microscopic toxic dust from cars and lorries - are damaging to health, Previous studies suggest that more than 10,000 people a year may be killed in Britain by fine pollution particles. Large-scale research in the United States has shown that high levels of particulates can increase rates of heartand lung disease by up to 37 per cent. There appears to be no threshold below which exposure to particulates ceases to have any health effects... In the new study, researchers at Napier University in Edinburgh will test the theory that it is the minute size of particulates and the way they react with other chemicals that makes them so dangerous.

Singing stops for Diana

The down-beat, respectful music played by radio stations after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, is being blamed for a slump in radio listening figures during the summer. The official "Rajar" listening figures show that Radio 1 lost a further 170,000 listeners during July, August and Septemher, giving the station a weekly audience of around 9, million people. London station Capital Radio also lost listeners - its audience was 14 per cent smaller than in the previous quarter and the station said it was due to it making the most extreme music policy change of any station in London. In the aftermath of Diana's death listeners turned from music to speech radio and Talk Radio had its highest ratings in its two and a half year history. Its listening was helped by a 58 per cent jump in the audience for Danny Baker's phone-in football show that he took to the station afterbeing dropped from BBC Radio 5 Live.

TOURIST RATES

Australia (dollars)
Austria (schillings)
Belgium (francs)
Canada (\$)
Cyprus (pounds)
Denmark (kroner)
France (francs)
Germany (marks)
Greece (drachmei)
Hong Kong (\$)
Ireland (punts)

2.23	Italy (lira)	
19.74	Japan (yen)	P
57.97	Malta (lira)	•
2.20	Netherlands (guilders)	
0.83	Norway (kroner)	
10.76	Portugal (escudos)	2
9.43	Spain (pesetas)	2
2.83	Sweden (kroner)	_
444,9	Switzerland (francs)	
12.20	Turkey (lira)	28
	·, ····-,	20

What do you give the car that has everything?

How about even more standard equipment and a bigger choice of colours, interiors and options?

Audi @

Italians for intil English says FA The Italian de Properties Indian

blamed for program of the side during the World Cost quality Sauce perween the said and The Italians Califa in Fined forced to change the was the handle future farmers, were

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Vote recours: resignations and Galey embarratsantiant at FOUND SELECTION OF A SECOND British Fash on Awards after a prize the miteriors

leading dos they won allocated to arress. Tamped to the Fast sen Editor, reports.

Italians to blame for intimidating English fans, says FA report

The Italian authorities have been blamed for much of the violence during the World Cup qualifying game between England and Italy. The Italians could be fined and forced to change the way they handle future games, writes Jason Bennetto, Crime Correspondent.

English soccer supporters were "deliberately intimidated" by the Italian police during the World Cup game in Rome this month, according to a report by the Football Association.

The treatment of many English fans, who were involved in bloody confrontations with riot police at the stadium in Rome on 11 October, was described as "intolerable".

A 50-page report concluded that "no serious efforts" were made by officers to prevent Italian fans throwing missiles, and that the police's "brutal treatment"in batoncharging sections of the crowd was unjustified. The authorities were also accused of "extreme provocation".

Some English supporters, however, were criticised for drunken and violent behaviour in the run-up to the match, which saw England draw 0-0 at the Olympic Stadium to qualify for the World Cup finals.

lnadequate stewarding and an unwillingness to use British police expertise were also cited as reasons for the breakdown of order.

Fifa, the world football authority, yesterday said that Italy could be censored, but added it was unlikely that it would ban them from the competition. A spokesman said: "Italy could be yellow-carded and punished with a fine, for example, but I don't think Fifa will ban the Italians."

He added that the Italian authorities bad until Monday to give their side of the story.

A spokesman from the Italian Embassy in London said that the FA's report was "one side of events" and that their interior minister was completing his report. The hardhitting response by the FA is certain to cause a major furore with the Italian authorities,

The FA's report was compiled from the experiences of almost 1,500 English sup-

An FA statement said: "The FA believes the overwhelming majority of England supporters conducted themselves with great restraint on the night of October 11.

"This happened despite what would appear to have been deliberate intimidation, and sometimes extreme provocation, on the part of some of those responsible for their safety and security while on foreign soil.

"We are bound to stress our particular alarm at the fact that UK police officers who travelled to Rome were at best underutilised, at worst deliberately ignored.

"There was no effective stewarding or adequate signage. The experiences of a large number of supporters before, during and after the match were intolerable."

Millions of television viewers saw pictures of Italian policemen crushing English fans against barriers and hitting them with batons.

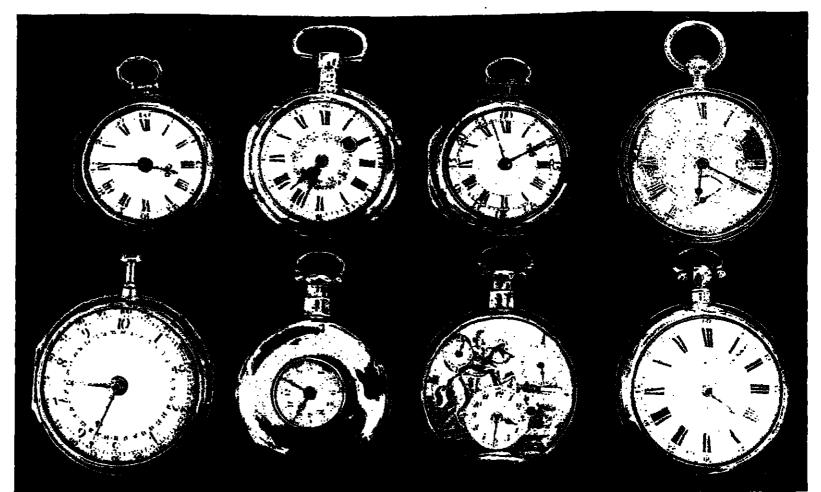
About 2,000 English fans were also sold tickets that would have placed them alongside Italian supporters. The report also found that crowds of supporters were caught in a bottleneck because of the time taken to check their tickets and to be searched by the authorities

The report concedes that not all English fans behaved impeccably, either at or before the match, and that the FA is keen to see action taken by the Government to ensure that known trouble-makers are not allowed to travel to away matches in Discussions with Jack Straw, the Home

Secretary, about the issue are to take place. David Davies, the FA director of public affairs, called on Fifa to carry out an independent investigation into the Rome incident. He also said that countries ought to

draw up a standard code of conduct to be

used for all international football matches.



Time for change: 17th- and 18th-century timepieces - and, yes, a pedometer (bottom left) - for sale at a London market

Traditionalists sleep easy as clocks go back

As the clocks go back to give us all an extra hour in bed tonight, traditionalists can sleep easy that this is one ritual which looks set to continue unchanged.

Police, safety campaigners and the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) backed last year's Private Member's Bill by Conservative John Butterfill which would have brought the United Kingdom into line with the rest of Western Europe by staying one hour ahead of Greenwich Mean Time in winter and two chours ahead in summer. " But there were howls of

protests from Scotland, where I don't think that it will the Scottish Nationalist Party was among those who condemned the move. The nationalists said it would plunge Scots into morning darkness, by transferring the hours of daylight to the evening.

The protesters appear to have won. John Butterfill, who last year topped the annual Commons ballot for backbench bills, will not be getting another chance. He said yesterday that he was not aware that anybody would be taking the battle further. "I doubt it. Unless you get government support for it.

happen."

There was a fairly determined group of opponents including some, although not all, Scottish MPs, and Europhobes who regarded the idea as another European plot, he said.

"But it would be amazingly useful. It would eliminate accidents and the police think it would reduce crime because criminals tend to operate in darkness but don't get up

"Business people want it because at the moment they're constantly one hour adrift of their European counterparts."

He said civil servants in a number of government departments, including the Home Office, transport and health, had been very keen. But a Home Office spokeswoman said yesterday there were no government plans to put forward new legislation

on the issue. A spokeswoman for the CBI said that they had backed Mr Butterfill's bill because most their members with the principal exception of the construction industry had expressed support for it.

But she said: "It seems to have died a death now. We're not lobbying at all."

The SNP is pleased. "We opposed it quite strongly last time and would do again. The arguments are still the same." a spokesman said.

"People don't want to be waking up and working until 12 in the afternoon in blackness. But it wasn't just Scotland - it would have meant a whole swathe down the coast of Wales and west of England would have been plunged into morning darkness. It was a bizarre proposal.'

— Louise lury

Vital statistics go awry on fashion's glossy night out

. Vote recounts, resignations and deep embarrassement all round sullied this week's **British Fashion Awards** after a prize given to one leading designer was allocated to another. Tamsin Blanchard, Fashion Editor, reports.

Antonio Berardi yesterday chose to decline the British Fashion Award for New Generation designer - mistakenly awarded to design duo Clements Ribeiro - declaring the business was a "farce".

for last night's VH1 Fashion Awards, had attended the ceremony on Wednesday night at the Royal Albert Hall as one of five New Generation nominees.

Berardi said: "I feel privileged and honoured to have been voted as New Generation designer for 1997, but the award given on Wednesday night reflects the intentions of the BFC [British Fashion Councill I cannot take the award away from Clements Ribeiro now they have been given it and

am very happy for them."

Press releases were sent out earlier on Wednesday afternoon confirming the winners for each category with Berardi as winner of the New Generation category. But at the awards, aired on Channel 5 last night, the winner was announced as Clements Ribeiro, Either Berardi got the votes or he did not. Voting forms are sent out in June to 600 press and buyers in the UK who vote for each of the eleven categories. Yesterday, Claudia Marten,

fashion director at Lynne Franks PR and the joint executive producer of the awards show handed in her resignation which was not accepted. She Berardi, now in New York claimed that the mistake was "human error" on the night.

The morning after the awards, the press was told that the mistake was a typing error on the press release. Then, a statement said that the BFC was "investigating a possible error

... there was a discrepancy between the advance press release which indicated that Antonio Berardi had won and then the later presentation being made to Clements Ribeiro". The plot thickened when

the final statement arrived yes-

of his moment of glory

terday confirming that there had been an error which occurred when "the incorrect name card was inserted into the award presenter's envelope". After a recount, Antonio Berardi was officially declared the winner.

John Wilson, chief executive of the BFC, said yesterday that he and the chairman, John Hoerner, were "exceedingly embarrassed" but have set about trying to clean up the mess: "We are not prepared to see the integrity of the awards damaged."

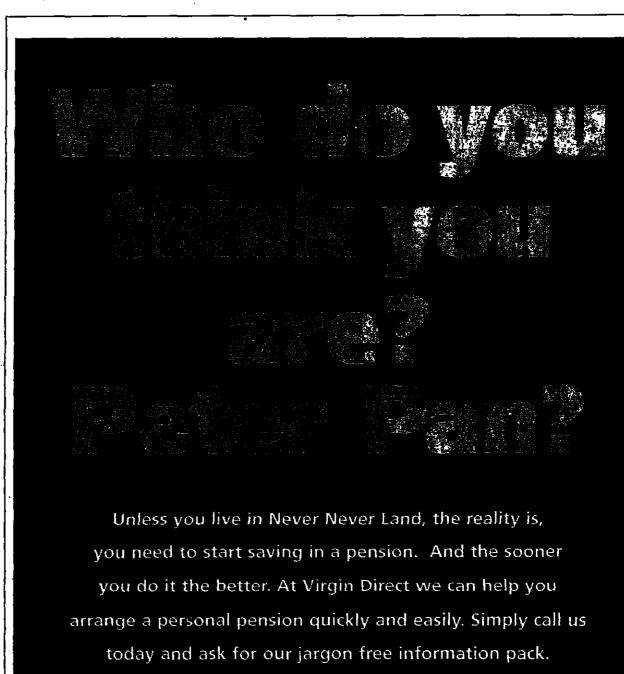
No one was more surprised than Clements Ribeiro themselves. They had won the award be unfounded.

last year and surely the whole point of the New Generation category is that the winner is "new". Yesterday, they accepted an apology from the BFC and relinquished the title. .The fact that Red or Dead

(Street Style), Nicole Farhi (Contemporary Collection), Philip Treacy (Accessory Designer) and Alexander Mc-Queen (Designer of the Year) all received the same awards as last year also raised question marks about the awards' voting system. Red Or Dead won for the third time running.

Hussein Chalayan, nominated as designer of the year, said, "there should be a new voting system which is more sympathetic to other designers who could also benefit from receiving such an award, rather than the same winners"

Alexander McQueen, joint inner of Designer of the Year with John Galliano has made it known that he does not wish to be nominated again after his successive triumph. Another industry insider commented that the final count of votes should be given to an external group to oversee so that any accusations of corruption would



IN THE INDEPENDENT ON MONDAY



THE DEBORAH ROSS INTERVIEW Is Nicola Horlick superwoman, scapegoat, or simply a woman in need of protection (if only from herself)? MEDIA

Why Christine Walker, adiand's £400,000 year chief exec ended up in court STYLE

G-Star - new designer jeans that are walking out of the shops

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Queen(

Court hears case loud and clear

> A man with hearing problems was yesterday convicted of assault for shouting so loudly into his wife's ear that she suffered permanent damage.

Peter Pryor, 58, had denied causing actual bodily harm to his 54-year-old wife, Christine, in three shouting incidents in 1995 and 1996.

Judge Jeremy Griggs at Exeter Crown Court adjourned sentence for a probation report and extended bail for Pryor, of Victoria Road. Barnstaple, north Devon, on condition that he did not go to his wife's home or contact her.

The judge told Pryor the fact that he had granted bail was no indication of what he would decide and he had no preconceived

Outside court Pryor made no comment but his solicitor said: "He is obviously up-

It had been claimed during the trial that Pryor held his wife's arms by her sides and shouted loudly in her ears at their home at the time. Century Farm, at Bittadon,

Pryor, who is now living in rented accommodation, denied that the alleged incidents ever took place and said in court: "I do not know why she is making these allegations."

Mrs Prvor, who has been divorced from the defendant since the incidents, now has to wear a hearing aid and has whooshing and ringing noises in her cars almost con-

Boy, II, guilty of sexual assault

A schoolboy aged 11 was found guilty by a jury yesterday of indecently assaulting a boy of 12 after ambushing him and march-

ing him to a derelict building. The 11-year-old - who cannot be named because of a court order - was cleared during his trial of male rape on the judge's directions. Yesterday he was given a two-year conditional discharge for the indecent assault and for robbing his victim of a pencil case, which he admitted.

Judge John Hopkin, sentencing him at Nottingham Crown Court, said the boy was already in the care of the local authority and would be returned to the secure accommodation where he has been for several months. The court heard that he was the subject of a care order which would last until he was 18.

Brown to rule out joining Emu in first wave

ment's position.

the statement might go further and rule out sible opportunity". entry for the lifetime of this Parliament However, the announcement was also reports yesterday.

Gordon Brown is expected to rule out en- Last night Treasury press officers were Britain would not join in the first wave. tering the single European currency in 1999 refusing to elaborate on the announcement on Monday when he makes a long-awaited that a statement would be made, except to statement to Parliament on the govern- say that the Government was "acting de-Speculation was growing last night that statement to Parliament at the earliest pos- now say they expect Monday's statement to

. The move came after weeks of rumour likely to be couched in language which ters and their advisers had been strongly

Treasury sources were believed to have

sanctioned a Times headline last weekend which ran: "Brown rules out single currency cisively to stop speculation by making the for lifetime of this Parliament". Observers go at least part of the way to confirming it.

The speech to Parliament will cover isand counter-rumour during which minis- sues highlighted by Mr Brown in a speech to the Stock Exchange last week. He is likely would suggest a positive approach to join- criticised for briefing newspapers, first to elaborate on the "five tests" of national ing at some future time, according to some that the Chancellor was keen to join at an economic interest which he has already said early opportunity, and then later that will underpin the decision-making process.

These are jobs, investment, the City of London, the flexibility of the markets and the need to match our economic cycles with the rest of Europe.

He will hope that clarification of the Government's position will soothe jittery nerves in the City, and silence Opposition critics.

ment was made, the Liberal Democrats police described as a "tragic accident". called for a statement and accused the government of "shambolic confusion" over the single currency.

Fran Abrams, Political Correspondent

Sandhurst lecturer dies in blast

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Bomb disposal experts were drafted in and homes were evacuated after a lecturer at the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst died in an explosion at his home.

Dr John Pimlott, 49, was found dead at his home in Camberley, Surrey, after what

Families in neighbouring homes were evacuated while Army officers and police made the area safe.

Dr Pimlott, who is married with two children, was head of war studies at Sandhurst where he had worked, in various jobs. for 24 years. The family was being comforted by friends and relatives yesterday. A Surrey Police spokesman said:

"Investigations are now under way to

determine what happened but it would seem that this was a tragic accident. The area is now being made safe." It is believed that there were no suspicious circumstances surrounding his

The spokesman added: "We can confirm death. that there was an explosion in the house. The army were called because there is a lot of memorabilia in the house but none

of it was found to be dangerous. An Army spokesman said Mr Pimlott was made head of his department in 1994. He added: "It would seem that Mr Pim-

lott was a high flier, he held a high position for a man of his age. "He had written a number of books

about conflict studies during his time at Sandburst. By all accounts this seems to have been a very tragic accident."

Pair remanded over 'road rage'

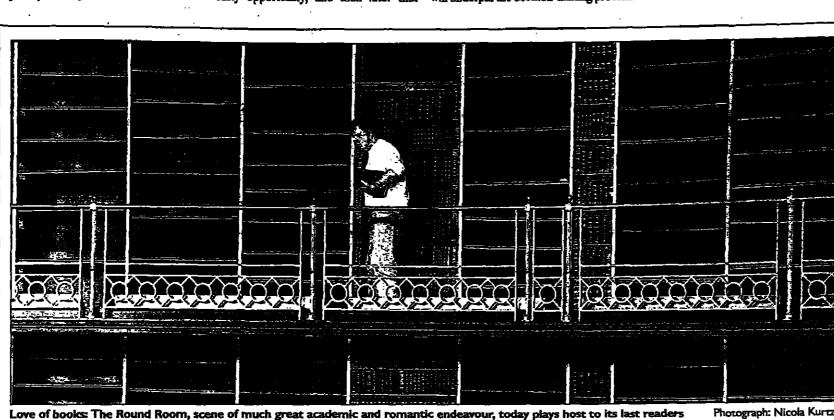
Two men appeared in court yesterday charged in connection with the alleged "road rage" deaths of a young couple.

Jason Humble, 32, and Keith Collier, 49, were remanded in custody by magistrates in Feltham, west London.

Humble, of Cove, Farmborough, Hampshire, was charged with two counts of manslaughter after Toby Exley, 22, and his girlfriend Karen Martin, 20, died in a car crash on the A316 in Hanworth, west London, on 6 October.

The couple died when their Ford Fiesta crossed the central reservation of a dual carriageway and smashed head on into the path of an oncoming car.

Mr Collier, also of Cove, was charged with assisting an offender by falsely reporting the theft of a car.



Round Reading Room speaks volumes

One hundred and forty years of tradition British Library at St Pancras. end today when the Round Reading

Room at the British Museum closes. Marxism under its stately dome; Charles the room yesterday, said: "It has an aura Dickens researched his classics in the almost holy silence. And Germaine Greer shouted "Go away, you dirty old man," at

"the north library lechers". The Round Reading Room hosts its last readers today before it becomes a specialist library pertaining to the museum's objects as part of a £97m redevelopment, and readers move to a bi-tech room at the new vices, praised the room's uniqueness in uate community is in every day, you've got

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A University of London history lecturer, Michael Drolet, researching his book Karl Marx formulated the tenets of on the French thinker De Tocqueville in with that. And, yes, you do meet people here. You see what they are working on. You glance at their book, they glance at yours. Watching people, you see that they learn to be discreet, they whisper, then they

move somewhere else to have coffee." Mike Crump, director of reader ser-

The COPERATIVE BANK

putting books in the context of museum objects: one could research, read, then go to look at other objects in the British Museum. But he too bad other memories.

"In 1973 Germaine Greer, in a loud voice, told one of the north library lechers 'Go away, you dirty old man'." The Round Reading Room is in the north of the building. But north library lechers?

Mr Crump chose his words carefully: "The library has a reputation for being good for meeting people, for forming liaisons. If you remember that the post-grad-

people with time to spend and misspend. And for me a lot of the emotional pull of the Round Reading Room ... is the memory of somewhere they hold deep in their heart from their time as students."

But the emotional pull is greater than that. It is the pull of beauty, of a secular cathedral. The room opened in 1857, conceived by the chief librarian, Anthony Panizzi, and designed by Sydney Smirke. The dome is on 20 cast-iron girders enclosed in concrete, with their lines visible on the interior, picked out in gold leaf.

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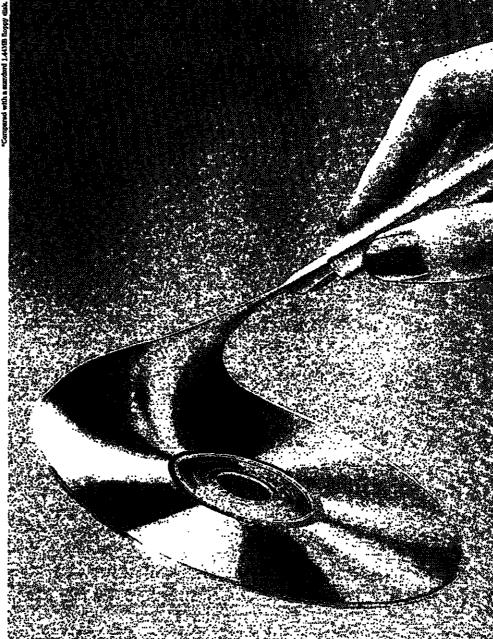
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Soft line by the imperial old boys' club

The Commonwealth summit opened yesterday with fanfares and triumphal speeches and boasts about its modernity. But Steve Crawshaw in Edinburgh found the organisation is still reluctant to confront member-states which breach its own code on human rights.

Chief Emeka Anyaoku, secretary-general of the Commonwealth, called for the outcome of the summit to be one of "confidence and hope", and for furious at what they saw as a coladvancement in conditions of freedom, peace and harmony".

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Officials confirmed that, although the Queen will keep her post as symbolic head of the Commonwealth, Prince Charles or his son William will not nec- value is to be placed on its essarily inherit the job. Sir Humphrey Mand, deputy secretary-general of the Commonwealth, emphasised that there is no constitutional bar to change. "A rotating head, a British head, a non-British head, no head at all - you fill in the blanks".

Mr Anyaoku talked of the Queen, who for the first time mocratic and authoritarian spoke at a summit opening, as "the steadying hand which has helped the Commonwealth through some particularly testing times". No successor would be perceived in the same way.

Nigeria, indignant at being criticised for its record on human rights, has dangled the threat in recent days that it might leave the Commonwealth. As one commentator cho Marx. The line seems to be: 'I will resign from any club that hasn't got the guts to throw me out'." lt was unclear whether the threat to walk out was mere bluff. A summons for diplomats in Nigeria yesterday, at which it was rumoured Cook's comments, or about that it would announce a walk- comments by the Duke of Edmoment, just as a similar sum- massacre at Amritsar. "We've mons had been cancelled the learned to take things in our

failed to call for Nigeria's expulsion, despite a resolution at the last Commonwealth summit that expulsion would follow unless there was "demonstrable progress" towards democracy.

The Commonwealth has not even signed up for the limited package of sanctions that the European Union agreed last year, including visa restrictions for members of the government and a ban on arms sales. Theoretically, an oil embargo remains a possibility, somewhere down the line. But past experience suggests the Commonwealth would shy away from this "robust set of sanctions" like a bolting horse.

Nigerian rights activists were lective cop-out. A joint statement talked of "emasculated principles" and complained: The Commonwealth has told the whole world, in unmistakable terms, that absolutely no word". Signatories of the opponents of the regime - including the Nobel prize-winning writer Wole Soyinka, and Ken Wiwa, son of the executed activist Ken Saro-Wiwa - said: "The Commonwealth can only be relevant to the citizens of its member-nations if it puts their interest before that of undestructures of power."

As is traditional, none of these arguments could be heard on the stage of the summit itself, where all was sweetness and light. Government leaders were keen to play down all areas of disagreement. The Indian Prime Minister, IK Gujral, insisted there were no problems between Britain and India, despite the problems of the recent noted: "They've adapted Grou-royal tour and the offence caused by Foreign Secretary Robin Cook's comments on Kashmir.

The Prime Minister's only criticism of Mr Cook was oblique and he insisted there were no hard feelings about Mr stride. India's a large country, The ministerial group which and very tolerant. Let's leave it has met for the past two years at that," he said.

Queen@show.

New Britain, New Fun. That was the host government's message to the Commonwealth leaders.

As the summit opened, the Queen and the assembled presidents and prime ministers were treated to a video show entitled "A Young Country" (to be precise: "www.a young country@britain.gov".) This glossy corporate video provided a new look for the new millennium. Out went biscuit tin images of thatched cottages and Changing of the Guard. In came modern graphics and spinning compact discs.

Tony Blair said: "As you have just seen, this is a time of renewal and redefinition - for Britain and, I believe, for the Commonwealth." He insisted: "The Britain of the élite is

The Queen also declared her support for the New Britain line. In a text authorised by Downing Street, she, too, referred to the video. "When we arrived, we saw some film which I hope explained why we were so keen to host this meeting here in the United Kingdom," she said.

Yet she looked vaguely disconcerted when listening to the souped-up version of the national anthem, which sounded as though it had been produced by synthesiser.





Cherie Blair and Bumni Anyaoku, wife of the Commonwealth Secretary-General, with a pipe band during a visit to a 'family festival' on the first day of the heads-of-government meeting in Edinburgh.

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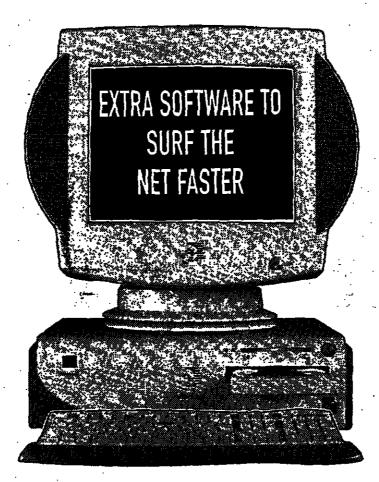
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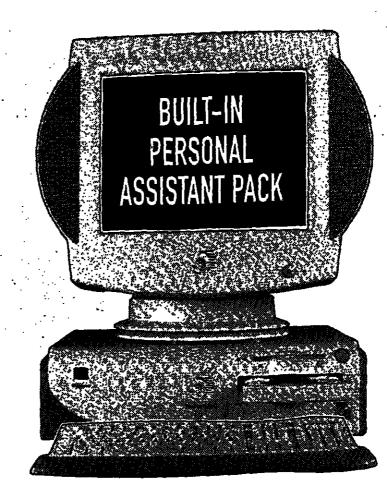
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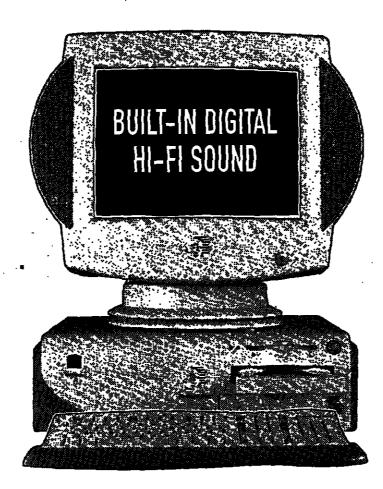


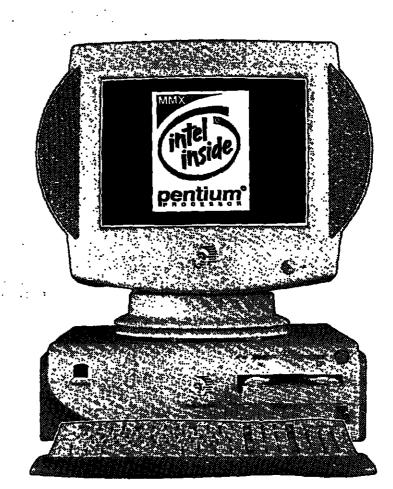
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Wiping out wildlife 'may not matter'

Mass extinction of species caused by human kind doesn't really matter. That's the heretical bottom line of a paper by the Government's chief scientist and an Oxford ecologist. Nicholas Schoon, environment correspondent, explains.

Each hour, as the earth's remaining forests are burnt, felled and ploughed up, between two and five plant and animal species become extinct. That is the best guess of biologists researching this dismal field.

At that rate, there will be a huge dent in the 14 million plant and animal species thought to live in tropical rainforests within a few decades.

"I find it very hard to believe that it's going to make any dif- of life - inventions as diverse ference to us personally," said Oxford University ecologist Dr carapaces - will carry on. Sean Nee yesterday. "I don't know, but I doubt it."

He accepts 1,500 different species of birds are in real danger of becoming extinct in the next few decades, thanks to man-made habitat destruction. that as far as conserving over-"But birds as an evolutionary grouping thrive in man-made cerned, there is little virtue in habitats like fields and towns. They're going to carry on."

These are not the ramblings of an ignorant anti-green. Yesterday Dr Nee's paper on extinction, co-authored by the Government's chief scientist, Professor Robert May, was published in the prestigious journal Science.

The summary of their paper says: "Approximately 80 per cent of the underlying tree of life can survive even when approximately 95 per cent of species are lost."

The tree in question represents evolutionary history. As species evolve over millions of years, new ones split off from established ones like twigs from a branch. When a species becomes extinct - as often happens naturally - the branch reaches a dead end, but species which have split off earlier on survive and, in turn, split off new species, thereby founding a new branch.

All the earth's surviving species can be envisaged as all the twig ends on the outermost edge of the tree (with many more dead ends further in). Together these living species represent all the life that has gone before them.

But as the earth's forests are cleared, twigs are being lopped off faster and faster. "We have shown that much of the tree can survive even vigorous pruning," says the paper. The great breakthroughs as feathers, fur, shells and

If there is a man-made mass extinction, as now seems certain, there will still be a sufficient diversity of species to allow evolution to continue.

The scientists conclude all evolutionary history is contrying to conserve one species above another based on how long its own unique history is.

Take two closely related birds, both little brown jobs. If one split off from the other just 100,000 years ago and they are still pretty similar, then if one becomes extinct does it matter?"

Dr Nee recognises that each species is unique, and extinction eliminates it for eternity. "But I guess I'm taking the naughty side - it's a bit more fun," he



Rare breed: Fell ponies are falling sick with diarrhoea and pneumonia. Many have had to be put down

Photograph: Kit Houghton

Mystery illness threatens fell ponies

breeds, are threatened by a mystery illness which compromises their immune system and leaves them prey to infection.

Until now the sickness has been little discussed, mainly because breeders of the hardy ponies feared that by doing so they would lose customers, said Sally Wood, secretary of the Fell Pony Society, yesterday.

But with about 50 foals falling

which can no longer be ignored.

They are one of Britain's 11 breeds of pony, and were used mainly as pack horses. By the end of the Second World War, the fell ponies were close to extinction because people no longer had any use a healthy foal will quickly fall prey for them.

The breed has been revived and there are thought to be about 4.000 of them, producing 300 registered sick each year, it has become a real foals a year: Centred on Cumbria

Fell ponies, one of Britain's rare threat to the future of the breed and the northern Pennines, with some still living in herds out on the along. Victims are lethargic, hills, they are now used mainly for riding, showing and pulling traps. They are stocky, hairy and stand up

> to four feet eight inches tall. Ms Wood said: "When it strikes, to any variety of illnesses which may set in." Cuts are slow to heal, diarrhoea becomes chronic and lungs become infected with pneumonia. The individual infections can be

cured, but then another comes anaemic and many have had to be put down.

Liverpool University's Veterinary School has examined several of the ponies, both dead and alive. Along with the society, it is now seeking funding to run a full investigation into the sickness and to develop a diagnostic test. That will cost £50,000.

— Nicholas Schoon.

Recycling urged

Hundreds of environmental campaigners will protest outside electrical stores today. Their aim is to force the UK electrical industry to pay for goods to be reused and for products to be labelled with their expected lifespan.

Glenda Cooper, Consumer Affairs Correspondent, writes.

More than six million electrical items are dumped every year in the UK. Yet research suggests that up to 70 per cent of televisions and other goods could be recycled.

Today, more than 1,000 people at 85 Friends of the Earth groups throughout the UK will be calling on the UK electrical industry to pay for the collection of electrical goods for reuse and recycling, for products to be labelled with their expected lifespan and for retailers to offer free extended guarantees.

"We want to move the debate on recycling forward from packaging to the actual products people have in their homes," said Anna Thomas, waste campaigner for FoE. "We also want to highlight the issue of producer responsibility that it should be the producer that takes their products

The EU designated waste from electrical and electronic equipment as a priority project in 1991 and a proposed European Directive for household consumer goods would ensure that manufacturers take responsibility for their product "from cradle to grave".

The measure is likely to be modelled on the proposal for end-of-life vehicles with the emphasis being on diverting materials containing hazardous substances away from incineration and landfill.

One proposal that has been put forward by the Industry Council For Electronic Equipment Recycling (ICER) is that taxpayers could foot the bill through council tax payments.

Friends of the Earth is opposing demands by manufacturers and retailers that the cost of collection should fall on council tax payers.

A spokesman for Dixons said yesterday: We do a lot of recycling. All our white goods that are returned to us we recycle. We are sympathetic to the aim of recycling but whichever way the costs are worked out the excess will be borne by the consumer whether they pay through council tax or find it reflected in higher prices."

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Firework training call

A fireworks display which spirailed out of control and left 24 people needing hospital treatment has sparked fresh safety warnings and a call for special training for people wanting to conduct bonfire night displays.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents has proposed the introduction of a national qualification which would have to be achieved before anybody is allowed to stage a display. The idea was backed by trading standards officials who said that under present regulations large and potentially dangerous fireworks could get into the wrong hands.

A RoSPA spokesman, Roger Vincent, said: "We believe that all display artists need to be registered properly and that there needs to be a recognised training scheme for those who run displays. We hope [this] would serve to reduce the number of firework-related accidents."

The call follows an incident in Willenhall, West Midlands, on Monday, where a number of fireworks shot into a crowd of more than 300 people. One child suffered serious burns to his arm and hands and the others were taken to hospital with minor burns and shock.

--- Amanda Kelly

Ulster victims may get their own memorial

A new commission to consider how to commemorate victims of the Northern Ireland troubles was launched yesterday by the Government.

The announcement was almost certainly timed to coincide with the Ulster Unionists' annual conference, which takes place today in Newcastle, County Down. The unionists have long campaigned for people who died at the hands of terrorists to be named on war memorials.

The new commission will look at the possibility of a memorial to the 3,000 people killed in the province during the past 28 years. It could also consider new assistance for the families of the dead.

Sir Kenneth Bloomfield, a senior civil servant, has been asked to lead the commission. His brief is to examine the feasibility of providing greater recognition for the victims, both dead and alive, while recognising that the conflict has had "appalling repercussions" for many people who live outside Northern Ire-

The possibility of building a memorial "reflecting both the sorrows of the past and the welfare of victims' fami-



Soundbite: Mo Mowlam with Belfast's Lord Mayor, Alban Maginness Photograph: PA

ful future" will be considered. Speaking during a visit to Belfast City Council, Mo Mowlam, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said

hope for a stable and peace- lies was an important issue. haphazard way up until now. "We will look at the question of pain and suffering across ial in some sense to that pain the board. Victim welfare is a and suffering, what form that terribly important issue and one we should address. It has want to see what suggestions been addressed in a fairly come from the community,

which comes three weeks before Remembrance Day and the anniversary of the Enniskillen bombing, builds on a promise made by Tony Blair when he visited the province earlier this month. The Ulster Unionist Par-

she said. The announcement,

ty's security spokesman, Ken Maginnis, welcomed the announcement.

"Members of the police and UDR have long been neglected in terms of peace and reconciliation funding, which was intended to alleviate problems suffered by victims of violence," he said.

The Democratic Unionist Party's justice spokesman, lan Paisley Junior, said any monument "must not be polluted by the network of pretend grief and politically oriented suffering of those groups who have exploited the Troubles." The body should not be hijacked by the "politically unscrupulous," he said.

Alex Maskie, a Sinn Fein councillor, said it was vital that the suffering of both communities was recognised. "Republicans do not have the monopoly on suffering."

"We would like a memor-

takes I have not decided. We

Judge criticises Venables as he jails 'blatant' perjurer

Terry Venables's right-hand man was jailed for four months yesterday for helping the former Tottenham Hotspur boss manage the club and a West End nightclub in "flagrant" breach

of a bankruptcy ban. nancial guru" behind the man who was ousted as chief executive at the football club, was branded a "blatant perjurer" at Knightsbridge Crown Court by Judge Timothy Pontius for lying about how he illegally hired and fired staff, authorised salary increases, and took a string of

high-powered decisions. Judge Pontius condemned both the disgraced businessman and Mr Venables, the former England coach - who had given evidence on his behalf - for "deliberately and dishonestly" trying to mislead the jury.

Ashby, who already had 43 failed companies behind him when he began chairing management meetings at Spurs, signing letters as "General Manager" and taking a major role running Scribes West, the private club Mr Venables then owned,was also condemned for indulging in a "transparent charade" of a defence - trying to put the blame on the new White Hart Lane chief, Alan Sugar.

Judge Pontius told Ashby: "It is a regrettable and sad aspect of this case that you, a person of impeocable character hitherto, chose blatantly to give perjured evidence before the jury and more seriously, to call as Eddic Ashby, 53, the fiidence which the jury plainly found to be at best fanciful and at worst intended by you both to deliberately and dishonestly mislead them as to the true position. I have not the slightest hesitation myself in preferring

the second view." Ashby's dishonesty was a "wholly flagrant" breach of the law committed over a "considerable" period.

He had signed a court document after being declared bankrupt at Brighton County Court in June 1991, in which he acknowledged that he was prohibited from being involved in company management, the

judge said. The businessman knew "precisely" what he could and could not do - but despite this he continued playing a central role in Mr Venables's Scribes West nightclub until others discovered the truth about him and forced him to relinquish his po-

Butcher was misinformed over E. coli ban on meats

The butcher at the centre of last cooked meat. The charge alleges year's E. coli food poisoning outbreak in Scotland was not told by health officials that a ban on selling cooked meats also applied to orders he had already at the Cascade bar, Wishaw. made up, a court heard yesterday.

Graham Bryceland, North Lanarkshire Council's head of protective services, admitted that said he had not thought of raising concerns with John Barr, a butcher in Wishaw, about any orders which had already been made up.

day of Mr Barr's trial at Hamilton Sheriff Court, Mr Bryceland told the court during cross-examination that he "assumed" orders would be made up fresh.

The court had earlier heard E.coli food poisoning after eating cooked meat at a party on Saturday 23 November last year which was allegedly supplied from Mr Barr's shop Wishaw.

The butcher denies culpably. wilfully and recklessly supplying

he supplied 100 slices each of baked ham, roast beef, and cooked turkey, knowing they were to be eaten at a function

The court was told that a meeting of the council's outbreak control committee had heen held at Law Hospital on 26 November, A minute from the meeting read out in court stated that environmental health officers had visited Mr Barr at his shop on 22 November and asked him to Giving evidence on the fifth stop "selling and distributing"

any cold meat products. Despite the fact that he had checked the minutes himself. Mr Bryceland conceded that the word "distributing" was never mentioned to Mr Barr and that that several people fell ill with he took the word sale to mean

distributing. Mr Bryceland then agreed with Mr Moore that he had made a mistake in not telling the outbreak control committee

about what was said to Barr. The trial continues.



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Stepford wife or feminist? Hillary Clinton seems to be coming to terms with her ambiguous role as First Lady, and to playing second fiddle to husband Bill

Hillary comes to terms with age and role

America's First Lady, Hillary Clinton, turns 50 on Sunday. After a turbulent five years in the White House, she seems calmer, more confident and less concerned about what people think of her. Mary Dejevsky asks: has she fulfilled her ambition to change the office? Or has the office changed her?

Two years ago, close to the nadir of her fortunes, Hillary Clinton mourned her 48th birthday as marking the irrevocable onset of middle age. This time White House travel office around, she says with a smile: "Turning 50 doesn't bother me eventually took responsibility. ... realising that I'm a half-century old, that's different!"

Americans now seem comfortable with Hillary Clinton, and she with them. The vicious attacks, personal and professional have faded. She is no longer the unelected harridan who wanted to usurp the presidency in pursuit of her own suspiciously left-wing social programme. She has almost stopped referring to herself as Hillary Rodham Clinton - the inclusion of her maiden name being a declaration of professional independence - and so have reporters. She is back to plain Hillary Clinton.

With her only daughter now at college in California, she bas thrown herself into good works and travel. Since the summer. she has toured Latin America. She has spoken out on battered women and childcare. This week, she chaired a White House conference on what she called the silent crisis faced by women with children who work and cannot find good childcare they can afford.

Next week, she visits Ireland and Britain. As on all her recent travels, she will be received by political leaders. She will doubtless be carrying messages. But she will be discreet.

For Hillary Clinton has learnt to observe limits. "Her" subjects are the rights of women and children. At this week's White House conference on day-care, she set out the problems; it was her husband, who offered some - very tentative solutions and some - small amount of - money. She knows her place.

When Bill Clinton was campaigning for the presidency in 1992, Hillary Clinton talked about being her husband's "partner". By standing by her man on television, she saved his political career from extinction in the Gennifer Flowers scandal. In some quarters, her performance was put down. uncharitably, not to love or loyalty, but to her supposed amoition to be president-by-proxy.

But it was also hailed as a waershed. There was political ife after sexual scandal after all. f Hillary could accept Bill as he was, then so could America. This was a "liberated" woman speaking on her own terms,

making her own decisions When Bill was elected President, her popularity ratings were higher than his. But there was always a gender gap. She fell into what could be described as the Margaret Thatcher, assertive-woman, trap. Men found her aggressive, manipulative, unwomanly, threatening. Women, especially single and professional women, saw in her an admirable example of how high-flying career and motherhood could be combined; they rooted for her.

Then Bill gave her the officespace she wanted in the White House, and a proper job, charting a reform of the American health system, and the backlash began. She was blamed for having the popular staff of the sacked, a decision for which Bill She was blamed for holding her health reform committees in tence was lauded, her blueprint for health reform was rejected. From mid-1994, it was open season on Hillary.

The minutiae of her personal and professional life in Arkansas, when her husband was state governor, were subject to intense media scrutiny. There were insinuations of affairs. shady business deals, insidertrading on the stockmarket, and influence-peddling. She was even accused of attending seances to conjure up the spirit of an eminent predecessor,

Eleanor Roosevelt The low point was her summons to appear before a grand jury to testify about missing legal records relating to the Whitewater land deal. More than three years later, the Whitewater case drifts on, drowning in detail, but none of the accusations against Hillary has been proved.

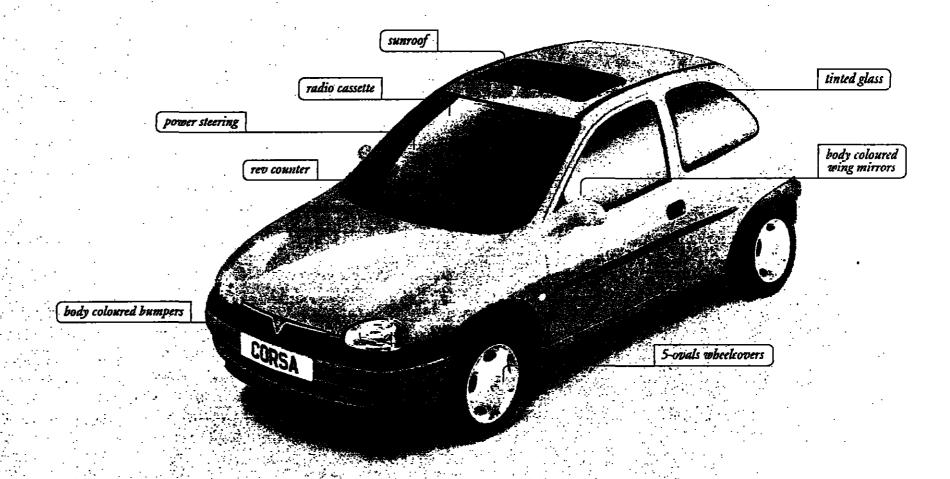
For a while, Hillary Clinton left the scene, emerging only as a dutiful wife and mother: a "Stepford" first lady, said one wag, alluding to the film satirising zombie wives of America's

After playing her part, decorously, in her husband's successful campaign for re-election. Hillary Clinton is now making a comeback. Some have commented that with her higher profile since Chelsea left for college, she is upstaging her husband. But there are few signs of that. There is not the slightest hint either - as there was five vears ago – that she might run for President or Vice-President, to succeed her husband.

The sad fact is that she has been tamed. America was not ready for a first lady who was a professional woman in her own right. The political establishment could not, or would not. use her strengths. As the formerty aggressive American feminist movement has settled into an occasionally discontented but comfortable middle age, so has Hillary. She has ditched the cookie-baking, but not pushed the bounds of office as far as she hoped. Like so many of her predecessors, she must choose pastel suits and conceal the extent of her partnership in power.

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Intriguing questions raised by Bill

Publication of the muchawaited Bill to incorporate the European Convention on Human Rights into British law delighted most observers yesterday. Only the Tories appeared unhappy. But as Michael Streeter explains, the Bill raises some intriguing, and so far unanswered. questions.

The Home Secretary, Jack Straw, was in an understandably bullish mood yesterday as he published the White Paper and accompanying Bill which will incorporate the European Convention on Human Rights into

Today is an historic day in terms of the rights of the British people," he said. "It is the first time since 1689 that there will have been a British Bill of

The mood among some human-rights groups, who had feared that the Government might produce a very weak incorporation of the Convention. was almost equally good. "It's brilliant," said one. "They've addressed nearly all of our points."

The Human Rights Bill, though it provides no new rights for individuals, does mean they will be able to avoid what Mr Straw calls the "lone hard road" to the court in Strasbourg.

Instead, litigants will be able to use British courts and British judges interpreting the Convention to hear their grievances, though the French-based court will remain as last port of

There has been much debate about whether the Govern- means that while judges will be bourg. ment would adopt the Canadian or New Zealand models of human rights incorporation. the former being regarded as tougher than the second.

In fact, Mr Straw has produced a "British" solution, which addresses criticism from some quarters that incorporation interferes with the sover-



Former British forces personnel Duncan Lustig Prean, Jeanette Smith, Graeme Grady and John Beckett are challer Photograph: Andrew Wong/Reuters the ban on homosexuals in the military at the European Court of Human Rights

able to declare past or future ible" with the Convention, they be able to strike them down. In-

stead, ministers will be expected to amend the conflicting law judgments. The White Paper, however, by a new, fast track procedure. subject to Parliamentary ap-

eignty of Parliament. This the case can still go on to Stras-

The shadow home secretary, Acts of Parliament "incompat- Sir Brian Mawhinney, claimed that British judges would be will not, like a Supreme Court, able to tell Parliament what laws to pass, and that these judges would be tied by old European

says that previous Strashourg proval. If ministers refuse to act, rulings will not be binding.

der the Convention to private The Convention may enbodies such as newspapers. couraged British judges to extend The human-rights group Liblaws into new areas. Jennifer erty said their only disappoint-McDermott, media partner at

ment was the failure to set up a London solicitors Lovell White Human Rights Commission, Durrant, expects courts to deotherwise they welcomed the velop both the laws of privacy Bill. Director John Wadham and freedom of expression, said: "We've been campaigning contained in Articles 8 and 10 for this for years, so we're abof the Convention. This could solutely delighted." involve extending the right of privacy from public bodies un-

Leading article, page 20

Britain loses again in court

By a delicious coincidence, Britain yesterday lost its 50th judgement by the European Court of Human Rights on the same morning it published plans to incorporate the European Convention into UK law.

The court backed the case of Stanley Johnson, who was convicted of assault and kept in a mental hospital even after being declared free from mental illness. For three and a half years Mr Johnson, from Leicester, was held because a supervised hostel place could not be found and because doctors were concerned that he might "explode" if exposed to the pressures of daily life without such support. But his lawyers told the judges in Strasbourg that since Mr Johnson's eventual release in January 1993, he had had no mental relapse and had not been convicted of any crimes.

Yesterday the Court said Britain was in breach of Article 5 of the Convention which safeguards the right to "lib-

Mr Johnson, who was awarded £10,000 costs, was sent to erty and security" Rampton psychiatric hospital in 1984 after punching a woman. He was diagnosed by the "responsible medical officer" (RMO) as suffering from "schizophrenia superimposed on a psychopathic personality". In June 1989, the Mental Health Review Tribunal accepted a report by the RMO stating that Mr Johnson was now free of mental illness but was not fit for discharge because he needed rehabilitation. Later, the tribunal again accepted he was not mentally ill, but because of his refusal to accept responsibility for his behaviour, imposed another deferred discharge pending suitable accomposed. modation. In January 1993, Mr Johnson was finally released.

Yesterday's ruling follows a long line of judgements against Britain. In 1989 the criticism following case involving Harriet Harman and Patricia Hewitt over surveillance by MI5 led to the security service being put on a statutory footing for the first time. The Court is currently considering a case brought by four former military personnel sacked for being homosexual - an action still likely to contested despite yesterday's White Paper.

Guideline for extension of branches of common law

Once enacted, how will the Human Rights Act work? Michael Streeter says it will give no new rights - but makes existing ones enforceable by British judges and therefore more 'accessible'.

The Act will incorporate the European Convention on Human Rights, first ratified in 1951, directly into British law. Although there are no new rights, experts expect judges to extend branches of the common law, using the t as a guideline. Privacy and freedom of expression are two such areas.

The Act will apply to actions of public authorities, such as police, immigration, courts, pub-(but not Parliament) where they ingly. Where they are irrecon- lation.

rights. It does not affect relations between private groups, such as a company and individuals. Litigants will be able to use the act in two ways. One is to bring an action against an authority. The other is to cite the incorporated Convention as Parliament. a criminal or civil defence at any level of court.

The courts can give the "appropriate" remedy available to them, and this can include damages - but only in line with those currently available at Strasbourg, typically between £5,000 and £10,000. Only the higher courts, the High Court and above, will be able to make "declaration of incompatibility".

central parts of the Act. Judges, sign a statement to that effect. where possible, will regard legcompatible with the Convention lic utilities, the Government articles and interpret accord- compatibility of all draft legis-

allegedly breach an individual's cilable, the judge will issue a 'declaration of incompatibility".

This does not give judges the right to strike down Acts of Parliament (though they can do this to so-called secondary legislation). The Government says this preserves the sovereignty of But if ministers refuse, the

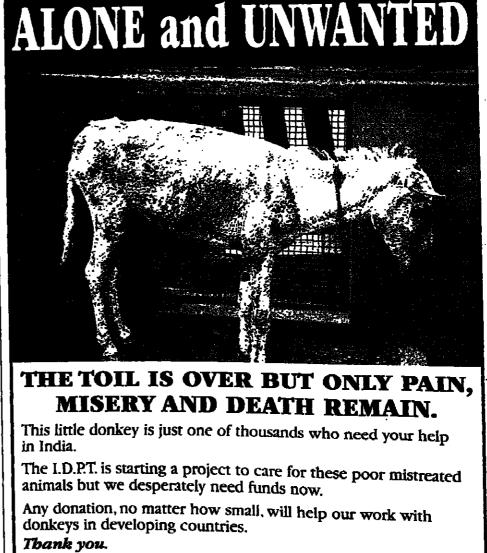
case would be taken to Strasbourg - as at present.

More likely, ministers will seek to change the conflicting law by statutory instrument, under a fast-track procedure set up under the law. These need approval by both Houses.

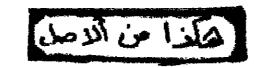
Ministers will also be expected to ensure that all new legislation is compatible with the This power will be one of the Convention and will have to

There will also be a legal 🕕 islation, past and future, as group established between departments of state to ensure the





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Bosses say give sacked staff more cash

People who are unfairly dismissed deserve a better deal, a conference was told. The view came from an unexpected quarter says Barne Clement, Labour Editor.

The Government should abandon the "indefensible and outrageous" upper limit on compensation for unfair dismissal, a leading firm of labour lawyers which specialises in advising employers said.

John McMullen of the solicitors Pinsent Curtis said that restrictions had been dropped for race and sex claims at industrial tribunals and it was unfair to maintain the curb on payouts for dismissal.

Ministers have heard such arguments from trade unions and left-wing lawyers, but Pinsent yesterday became the first of the firms which invariably appear on behalf of the "bosses" to make the same point.

Speaking at the Institute of Personnel and Development conference in Harrogate, Dr McMullen said all responsible employment lawyers and human resource specialists would agree with his assertion. "They would argue that their companies have simply got to get it right when people are dismissed," he said.

Referring to the limit of £17,600, of which £11,300 formed the compensation payment, he said: "It's indefensible. It's gone for race, sex and disability claims. It's

He pointed out that some victims of sex discrimination had obtained up to £400,000 in compensation. Some women and members of ethnic minorities often sought to make a case for sex or race discrimination rather than unfair dismissal in order to qualify for higher pay-outs if they succeeded. Sex and race claims can be made even if a worker has been with an employer for less than two years. Unfair dismissal cannot be claimed until that period has been com-

Dr McMullen also took issue with the number of reinstatement orders issued by industrial tribunals. Despite the legal mison d'etre of the tribunals, which was partly to ensure that those who were unfairly dismissed got their jobs back, only 0.6 percent of applicants won such orders from the court. That was a "damning criticism" of the system, he said. An unquantified but minimal proportion of those winning the orders actually went back to work. The overwhelming majority of employers preferred to pay additional compensation rather than comply.



A tribunal could have done little for someone like Nicola Horlick, who was ousted from a high-flying job in the City

Photograph: Reuters

73,000 in 1996, said Dr McMullen. Con- it and now win most cases. trary to the generally held belief, employers usually won, succeeding in some 60 per cent of industrial tribunal cases.

"Employers can usually obtain reasonable advice. Lawyers will tell them which cases not to pursue. Applicants however will press ahead with cases come what may."

Companies took time to adjust after the The number of unfair dismissal claims industrial tribunal system was set up in 1971 had rocketed from 38,000 in 1989 to but gradually learned how to make use of

The Government is seeking to relieve the logiam of applications to tribunals by introducing a voluntary system of arbitra-

Under the auspices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, lay judges would adjudicate where there was a disagreement between individuals and employers.

The arbitrators, who might be lawyers, academics or those with experience of in-

dustrial relations, would aim to offer a lawyer-free fast-track system of justice. Such a bearing, which would only take place with the agreement of both sides, could sit at the workplace and could be completed within days rather than the years some industrial tribunal cases take.

The Department of Trade and Industry, which has been under pressure from the Law Society to raise the compensation were not planning any changes in the law level for unfair dismissal to £40,000, said on reinstatement. the curbs on payouts were under review.

A spokesman for the Department said that Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, was, as required by statute, reviewing the upper limit and would announce her decision later in the year. The figure had not been uprated since 1995. There were no plans to withdraw the curb completely, which would require primary legislation. The spokesman said ministers

Job interviewers foiled by liars

Interviews are a highly dubious method of selecting recruits and may explain why so many accomplished liars get the top jobs, a senior psychologist told the annual conference of the Institute of Personnel and

Development in Harrogate yesterday. Adrian Furnham, of University College London, argues that interviewers invariably fail to recognise the sociopathic fibber and even after training may find it difficult to interpret the signs correctly.

Blink rate and shifting in one's seat are not necessarily signs that the interviewee is lying. Body language is often difficult to interpret, especially where a job applicant is practised in the art of dissembling.

"The Prince of Wales has a habit of touching his sleeve, but that doesn't mean that every time he does so, he's not telling the truth as he sees it," said Professor Furnham.

Even professional interviewers and police officers whose main job is to discover the facts, can have difficulty in deciding whether someone is lying, he said. Only those who know the interviewee well may be able to tell when he or she is not telling the truth because they know the person's habitual expressions and body language. Even then they can be mistaken.

Some signs to look for are sudden changes in behaviour either verbal. vocal or visual. The interviewer should also watch out for any "mismatch" between what is being said and how it is being said.

The inexperienced liar can be caught out by a lack of preparation and a fear of heing caught. Lie detectors or polygraphs which are routinely used by American employers perform better than the average interviewer, but are by no means perfect.

In one experiment involving 1,000 people, some 740 were registered as telling the truth, whereas 20 of them were lying. Possibly more problematic for the job applicant was the fact that of the 260 who were judged to be liars, 80 of them were telling the truth.

Professor Furnham believes that while lie detectors produce superficially scientific data, their value can be spurious. "Perfectly good candidates can be turned down for jobs just because they may be nervous or lack a certain amount of confidence."



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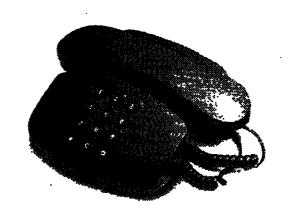
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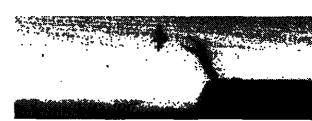
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Algeria's psychologists are overwhelmed by the number of civilians especially children traumatised by the bloodletting, which has itself reached the limits of insanity. Robert Fisk in

Algiers finds that

patients often refuse to respond to treatment. Khadija was eight when she

beard gunmen on the stairwell of her suburban Algiers home. Peering from her family's front door, she watched as a neighbour appeared, only to be shot down in front of her. She doesn't know who the killers were or even remember the neighbour's name. But when Dr

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her family, the result disturbed all of them.

Bloody terror that

renders children

Her drawing shows a startled female figure in purple - perhaps her mother, perhaps Khadija standing at the top of a pile of worm creatures that hang, ropelike, across the page. There is another splodge of purple to the right of the frightened human. It could be a pool of blood, the same colour as the woman's dress. Khadija has tried to write something in Arabic among the

worms" but it is meaningless. "We found that Khadija had been so upset that she had developed a urinary infection," Dr Ait-Sidhoum says. "Many children have developed physical symptoms from their terrible experiences. They develop physical illnesses because they have no capacity to work things out mentally. There was another little girl, called Sadjira, who was gang-raped. She developed an ovarian cyst. Others simply cannot communicate any more."

When she went for treatment to Dr Ait-Sidhoum, the president of the Algerian Society for Psychological Research. 12-year-old Amira could not conduct a conversation. She, too, had been gang-raped - in her own home - and Dr Ait-Sidhoum tried desperately to ralk to her about her experience. "She was incapable of talking about anything. When I offered her a cup of tea, she would say 'yes please'. When I asked her name, she would reply. But she was incapable of holding a conversation."

If Amira's response to her horrific ordeal seems typical. Dr Ait-Sidhoum's experience has persuaded him that all Algeria's massacre survivors will react differently.

He recalls a family of four, in which the father was the victim of an assassination attempt. The daughter was referred to me because she had learning difficulties at school, a common problem for children after a he was 26 - and he was a memtrauma like this. She couldn't reber of an armed group in 1992. member things. But when I He trained with other men. met the father, who was a doc- But his parents found him a job tor, I found he had even worse memory problems. After a while, the father suffered car- he joined the government's diac problems, the mother de- 'auto-defence' organisation [Alveloped a pre-cancerous uterine geria's government-armed mili-

speechless with fear fourth member of the family, tants asked Khadija to draw a who was a very cheerful and outpicture of the six members of going person, became phobic home. The father moved home but even at our consultations, he was convinced someone would burst in and kill him. But the little girl made a perfect

The Algerian government refers many trauma victims to Dr Ait-Sidhoum's centre, where they remain until family or friends can look after them, although the authorities seem strangely unwilling to publicise this work. The doctor found massacre survivors who already suffered psychological disorders developed far worse symptoms after witnessing

violent incidents.

"A persecution complex would later prevent a survivor going out of his or her home. A disorganised person found that they could scarcely function at all. There are also a lot of people who just keep seeing, repeated before their eyes, the dreadful things that happened in front of them. They have nightmares about what happened and, during the day, are completely absorbed by it and unable to think about anything else."

Dr Ait-Sidhoum's three female colleagues have decided the force of a survivor's personality decides the success of their recovery. "Their psychological strength determines whether they can get over it or not," Dr Ait-Sidhoum says. "I treated a teacher whose family were slaughtered in front of her. They even cut her throat and she pretended to be dead. But she has totally recovered and is back at work."

Of the worst psychological horror - that of the victim who knows he is to die - Dr Ait-Sidhoum prefers not to speculate: "Some will lose their head. Some will have heart attacks. Others will be unable to speak."

Of the mentality of those who cut the throats of babies, Dr Ait-Sidhoum says little. "There was a man called Ali -... and he bought a car and left

the armed group. Last month, problem and the aunt, the tial to chase the terrorists!"

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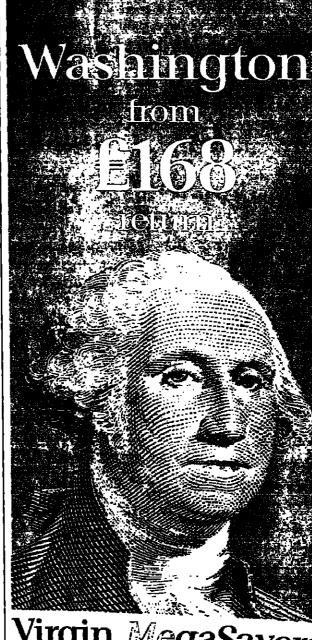
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High-flying Milosevic crony gunned down on streets of Belgrade

One of the most powerful men in Serbia, the businessman and politician Zoran Todorovic, was shot dead in Belgrade yesterday in what appeared to be a classic gangland hit. Andrew Gumbel says the killing has struck at the heart of President Milosevic's power machine.

Zoran Todorovic was one of those slick, overdressed powermongers who popped up in helped found the leftist politi-Belgrade during the Yugoslav cal party JUL, in theory an adwars of secession and, by strange coincidence, seemed to become very rich just as litically connected class of nou-

Serbia was being hit by international sanctions, a massive drop in living standards and hyper-inflation.

He certainly had plenty of enemies: the democratic opposition, which loathed him for his hardline opinions and his toadying to the regime, and public opinion, which looked upon him as a gangster and nicknamed him Kundak, or rifle butt. But he also had friends in high places, most notably Mirjana Markovic, the wife of the president, Slobodan Milosevic, who cultivated him and launched both his political and his commercial careers.

With Mrs Markovic, he vocate of Marxism but in reality a lobby group for Serbia's po-

he rose through the ranks of the key sector during the war when oil had to be smuggled into the country - to become general manager at Beopetrol, the second largest petrol company in the country.

His murder can only be interpreted as an audacious strike at the very heart of the Milosevic power machine. The 38year-old Todorovic was gunned down as he got out of his car outside Beopetrol's headquarters and died instantly, while his bodyguard was badly injured. A lone man was seen running away from the scene shortly afterwards, but no clues were immediately forthcoming about

the identity of the killer. Such murders are becoming increasingly common in Bel-

venux riches. Under her tutelage, grade. Earlier this year, Mr Milosevic's police chief, Radovan state-run petrol companies - a Stojicic, was killed in similar fashion, as was Vlada Kovacevic, a black marketeer and friend of Mr Milosevic's son Marko.

Nobody knows the precise motives for these murders, but they seem to be a product of the twilight world where politics and organised crime in Serbia meet.

Todorovic's murder coincides with a period of high political uncertainty, with Mr Milosevic battling to establish real authority through his new post of Yugoslav President and struggling to keep control of his old job as head of state in Serbia. Earlier this month, presidential elections in Serbia were declared null and void because they failed to attract the required 50 per cent of registered



Solomon Islands tells US to clean up its wrecks

hind after the Second World clean-up." War battles in the Pacific.

Bartholomew Ulufa'alu, said vesterday that at least 50 bat- main island of Guadalcanal tleships and aircraft carriers, and the volcanic island of Savo, wrecks from the Pacific conflict, Mr Ulufa'alu said. are rotting on the sea bed near

years that these relics and de- tralia and Britain - and Japan. bris have been sitting there, and they are causing ... a threat to no scientific studies had been Solomon Islanders who basically conducted to determine the have very limited land in terms extent of environmental damof land mass, but have a huge sea resource which this issue dotal evidence suggested that threatens," Mr Ulufa'alu said fish, coral and other marine life during a visit to Australia.

"Therefore we would like to see those who are responsible, problem itself, he said. or have been responsible for the — AP, B

The Solomon Islands wants the Second World War, both Allies United States and Japan to clean and Japanese, join us in an inup some of the mess they left be- ternational drive to do the

The wrecks are lying in Iron The Prime Minister, Bottom Sound, a narrow body of water between the Solomons

Guadalcanal was the site of the historic battleground of the 1943 Allied landing which Guadalcanal and polluting the marked a turnaround in the Pacific conflict between Allied "It is now more than 50 forces-including the US, Aus-

Mr Ulufa'alu said that while age caused by the wrecks, anecare dying. The Solomon Islands is unable to deal with the

Danish court jails nurse charged with killing 22

A court yesterday jailed the nurse charged with killing 22 patients at nursing home, after police presented new evidence in the case. The suspect voluntarily appeared in court so the three judges could see "who she is really - an ordinary 32-year-old woman," the defence lawyer Mette Lauritzen said. The nurse allegedly killed the victims, aged 65 to 97, by giving them overdoses of a morphinebased drug. The victims died between August 1994 and March 1997. The nurse also is charged with theft and embezzlement of 629,000 kroner (\$108,000) from nursing home patients. Police referred to the killings as "euthanasia," but it was not clear if any of the victims were cases of assisted suicide. Both euthanasia and assisted suicide are illegal in Denmark.

Sportscaster goes free after admitting biting lover

The judge in the Marv Albert sex trial declined to impose any sentence on Friday after the American sportscaster pleaded guilty to biting a lover during a sexual encounter.

Arlington Circuit Judge Benjamin Kendrick said the case against Mr Albert, who was fired from his job as an NBC sportscaster after his misdemeanor guilty plea, could be dismissed if he showed

He pleaded guilty in September to assault to avoid a more serious charge of forcible sodomy. He was accused of repeatedly biting a woman on the back in a hotel in this Washington suburb in February and forcing her to perform oral sex, which is classified as sodomy in Virginia.

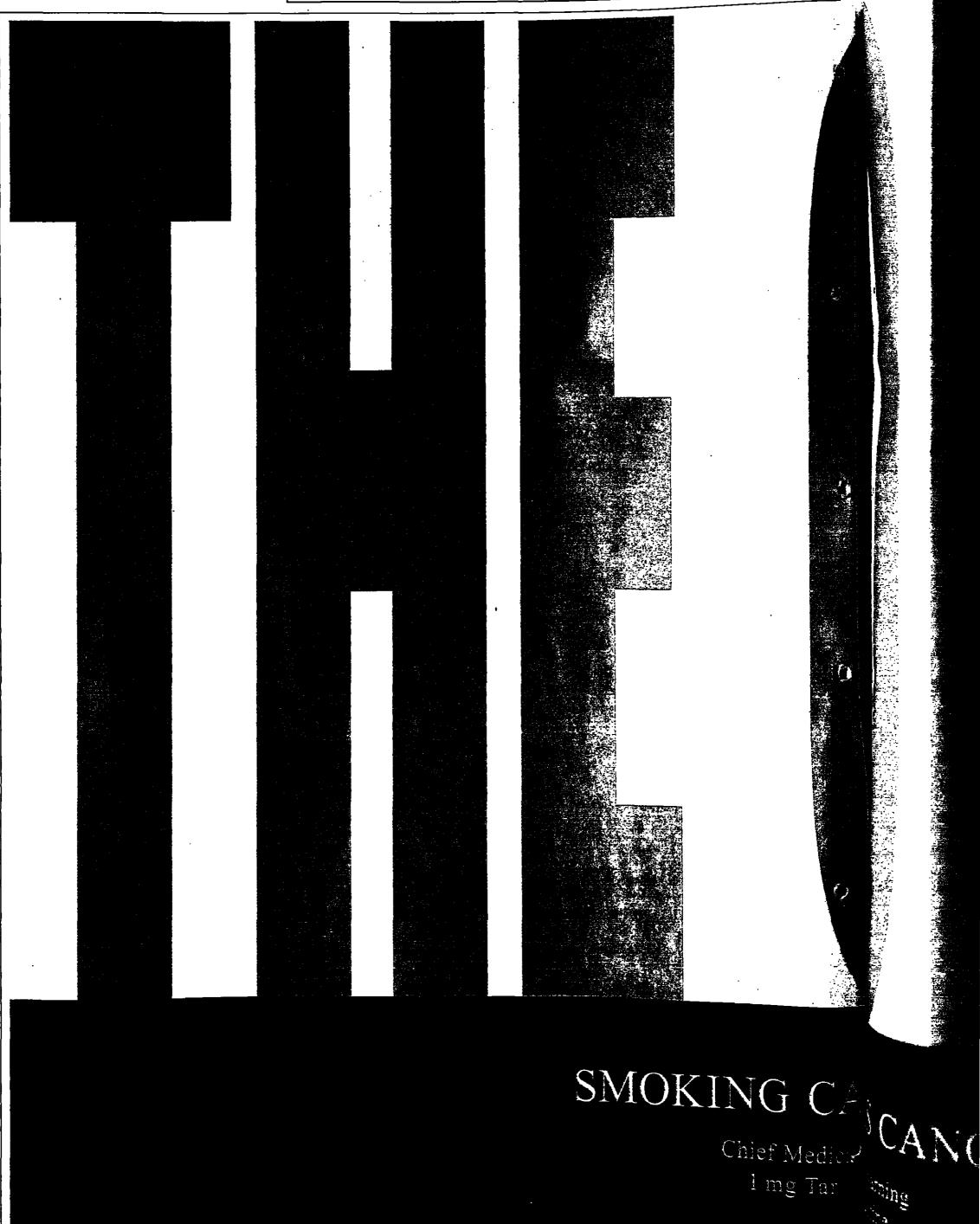
Irish draft whaling peace plan

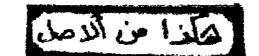
The International Whaling Commission (IWC) gave Ireland the green light to draft a plan to break years of deadlock between whalers and their opponents in the organisation. IWC member states underscored their guarded support for the initiative by Irish Whaling Commissioner and IWC vice-chairman Michael Canny by electing him chairman at the annual meeting. Canny's proposal would lift a 1982 IWC moratorium on commercial whaling, but limit hunting to coastal areas, and only for local consumption or aboriginal subsistence needs. Canny drew up his plan amid a surge in whale kills by Japanese and Norwegian hunters, to 1,043 in the past 12 months from around 350 a year at the start of the

Hostage gives Chechens slip

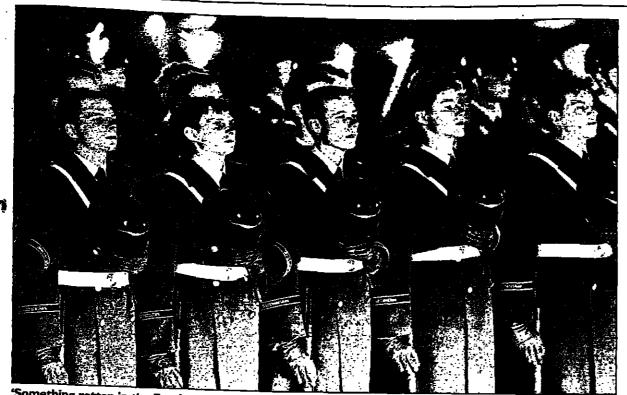
A French aid worker headed home to France yesterday, two days after he escaped from four months of captivity in the rebel Russian republic of Chechnya.

Christophe André, who worked for the international aid group Medecins sans Frontieres, told the Interfax news agency that he managed to remove the handcuffs that tied him to a radiator, and slipped out through an unlocked door. He walked for a few hours before hitching a ride to the Chechen capital, Grozny, Interfax said. Four workers for the French aid group Equilibre kidnapped in August remain missing, as do two Hungarian church workers.





15/WORLD NEWS



German army shocked by revelation of unit's second neo-Nazi videotape

A neo-Nazi video starring soldiers continue next week, when parliament's deof the Bundeswehr has shocked Germany. Horrified politicians recall that similarly repulsive footage emerged from the same source only three months ago. Imre Karacs asks if this another isolated incident, or a trend

Five hours of racist banter filmed at barracks of the German army threw the government into disarray yesterday, sparking a row over measures proposed by the defence ministry to counter the threat.

After viewing some of the tape, which was obtained by the SAT-1 commercial television station, Volker Rühe, Defence Minister, called for stricter vetting of recruits. fence committee discusses the "scandal video", which was made three or four years ago but only surfaced this week.

Just as Germany has had to come to terms in recent years with neo-Nazis in its midst it is confronted with evidence that even the democratic army is not immune to the disease.

"They always said an extreme-right culture could never emerge in the German army," said Dieter Heistermann, defence spokesman of the opposition Social Democrats. "But the fact that for three years nobody realised what was going on there shows something is rotten in the Bun-

There is much in the footage to justify this claim. To a sound-track of neo-Nazi rock, soldiers and officers of the 571 Mountain Infantry Battalion are seen giving the Hitler salute, discussing the "Jewish problem" - "the demons of the human

One soldier says: "What about the six million Jews? - All lies." An officer is seen wearing a T-shirt with the name of the skinhead band Skrewdriver; another T-shirt pro-

claims that "Rudolf Hess lives". The unit seems familiar with all the major bands and their songs, as well as classics such as the ballad "Eternal Germany - Holy Reich". Most of the soldiers appear to be blind drunk, enacting puerile scenes of homosexual encounters interspersed with fantasy Jew-bating.

One volunteers to be the anti-hero of the plot: "I am a Jew, I take the German people's money.'

Whereupon his comrades give him a good thrashing - in jest, of course. Some of the film is similar to a video shown by SAT-1 three months ago, in which soldiers played out a scene of killings and rape in the forests of Bosnia. The resemblance is no coincidence. The "Bosnian" tape was also produced by the 517st Battalion. though not by the same people.

This was attacked by the Justice Minister. Edzard Schmidt-Jortzig, as unconehr': Ministers are demanding stricter vetting of recruits Photograph: Reuters stitutional. The ministerial quarrel is set to race" - and singing anti-Semitic songs. ULTRA TOBACCO SERIOUSLY DAMAGES HEALTH

How Yeltsin led Russia into the Chechen quagmire

quite the aloof tsar he seems. Evidence in a book published yesterday about how the most catastrophic decision of his dayev and Mr Chernomyrdin presidency - the invasion of Chechnya - was made turns conventional orthodoxy on its head. It shows how the President personally drove through the plan to launch a military crackdown, while letting his subordinates take the heat.

In effect he turned his Security Council into a politburo when it met on 29 November 1994 after the failure of a covert operation to topple the rebel regime. Yury Kalmykov, then justice minister, said it was clear from the President's tone that his mind had been made up. All present were told to vote for an invasion. "The President said: 'Let's vote.' I said: 'I want to speak." No, we vote without discussion'. "It is a purely Soviet system", Mr Kalmykov said in an interview before his death in January this year. Mr Yeltsin "could not tolerate" any show of dissent. The process was into Chechnya. Mr Yeltsin went public comment on the crisis. Mr Kalmykov resigned.

Some officials believe the er in Russian defeat, could have been averted if the rebel president, Dzhokhar Dudayev, had obtained the meeting he was seeking, but was denied, with Mr Yeltsin or the Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin. If only his pride had been satisfied he would have been ready to moderate his demands on

President Boris Yeltsin is not Chechen independence, they say. Two top Russian politicians now reveal that a scheduled meeting between General Duwas mysteriously cancelled just

as the war was starting. The top Russian negotiator. Vyacheslav Mikhailov, said he wound up peace talks on the understanding that a meeting would take place. Gen Dudayev later told another nego-



Yeltsin: No dissent

tiator, Arkady Volsky, the only er a 40,000-strong force rolled during the war, that he had a special new uniform made for into hospital for a routine nose the encounter. Who called off operation, still having made no the meeting? By then Mr Yeltsin was in hospital and had delegated power to hardliners clustered around his bodyguard, war, which ended two years lat- Alexander Korzhakov. In all likelihood the planned meeting was quashed on their orders in favour of pursuing the invasion. The war in Chechnya cost 50,000 lives.

.... Thomas de Waal

'Chechnya: a small victorious War' by Carlotta Gall and Thomas de Waal, is published by Pan.

EU divisions open up over pace of expansion to east

Deep divisions over the pace of economic reform in the counthe European Union's planned expansion into Eastern Europe will be exposed today when EU foreign ministers gather in Luxembourg. The European Commission has recommended opening negotiations in the farm and regional aid policies new year with a first-wave group of five countries - Poland, Hungary the Czech Republic, Slovenia and Estonia, plus Cyprus.

But some member states, led by Sweden and Denmark, want negotiations to start at the same time with all 10 Eastern European candidates, even that they will stall the admission though Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia and Romania are the EU decision-making strucdeemed unprepared.

The Scandinavians argue that a selective approach to the dividual countries are allowed to accession talks will seriously damage efforts to promote the Germans for failing to back democracy, human rights and radical voting changes.

tries where it is most needed.

The debate will be complicated by a row between the existing member states over how to pay for enlargement, and on whether the bloc's expensive will first have to undergo major surgery. Spain, which fears big cuts in aid, has already signalled it will block enlargement unless the annual £60bn budget is expanded.

France, Italy and Belgium have issued a formal warning of any new member states until tures are streamlined. They fear stagnation in a union of 20 if inveto decisions, and they blame

JFK's son visits Cuba

John F. Kennedy Jr is visiting said Mr Kennedy was registered Cuba, almost 35 years to the day there. The world crisis that beafter the missile crisis in which his father faced down the Soviet Union. "He is there as a jour- to a head on 22 October 1962, nalist," said a spokeswoman for when President John F Mr Kennedy. She said she had Kennedy established a quaranno other details about the trip. tine to prevent Soviet missiles

Melia-Cohiba hotel in Havana down.

gan when missile sites were being built on the island came Mr Kennedy is founder and from being delivered to Cuba, editor of the political magazine after which the Soviet leader, George. A receptionist at the Nikita Khrushchev, backed

INGUSES CANCER

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The town that called the police at bed time

Police and politicians were congratulating themselves yesterday on the opening night of what is, in all but name, the first curfew on the streets of Britain. Stephen Goodwin was on estates in Hamilton, Scotland, as eight youngsters were picked up by police and taken back to their parents.

Strathclyde Police called it a "child safety initiative". They could have got a snappier title from the back of one of the many ice-cream vans which cruise the Hamilton housing estates - "Watch the Weans". The weans themselves have no respect for the constabulary's linguistic contortions and call the initiative requiring them to be indoors after dark a "curfew".

And for the first night at least it was pure entertainment. The media circus had come to town, with its cameras, lights and mobile phones, and despite near-zero temperatures there were more youngsters on the streets than police or tenants could remember.

"I didn't know there were so many weans in Whitehill," said a woman standing outside a heavily grilled store as knots of youngsters, some as young as six or seven, thronged around reporters and photographers.

Whitehill is the grimmest of the three housing estates chosen for the six-month pilot curfews. The scheme is a joint effort by Strathclyde police and South Lanarkshire Council to deal with vandalism, under-age drinking and fighting and to make parents aware of their responsibilities. "While you are watching a drama your kids could be involved in one," an advertising hoarding being towed around the streets warns.

The police say youngsters out late are at risk of sexual abuse, drug pushers and other the parents had reacted posi-"malevolent influences".



The nanny state: police question a youngster as the 'child safety initiative' begins

Photograph: Colin McPherson

Whitehill and though the coun- youngsters were all of an age cil has spent £5.5m refurbishing properties on the post-war streets during darkness gave estate it still looks a hard place cause for concern, he said. to grow up. Several of the fourin-a-block-homes surrounding out of hundreds of children on the bleak civic centre are the streets should have been sedaubed with graffiti. Nearly lected he was unforthcoming, 2,500 people live on each of apart from adding: "We had to the other schemes involved -Hillhouse and Fairbill.

The eight children stopped by the police and taken home in the unreal circumstances of 11 to 14, an equal number of boys and girls. Chief Superintendent Jim Elliot, commander of the Hamilton Division, said

where their presence on the However, as to why these eight start somewhere.

It was a night of confused stories. Chief Superintendent Elliot heard one about journalists handing out "penny the first night were aged from bangers" to youngsters and in another a man armed with a home-made bazooka was said to be scouring Whitehill firing

Yet none of the 50-strong

Some 1,500 people live in said it was 'first class'." The come away with serious scars, the "real criminals" of the esand nor did their P- and R- tate. "They should get rid of the registered cars.

Every one of more than a and then we could let the weans score of youngsters spoken to go out," one mother said. by The Independent in Whitehill and Hillhouse hated the police. "They're just shite," one drug users whom the women 13-year-old said. "They stop us said gathered by the civic censo they can be cheeky and act tre was nowhere to be seen. the big man."

Reaction among parents was mixed, though the initiative was a direct response to local householders' concerns.

One mother said youths drinking beneath her flat window made nights hell.

But on Whitebill a group of three women said the exercise was a waste of money and the we'll be back-next week when tively to their action. "One media contingent seemed to police should concentrate on there's nae cameras."

smackheads and the druggies

With all the police activity a gang of a dozen or more alleged

Strathclyde's Chief Constable, John Orr, said the exercise was not about imposing a draconian curfew or infringing civil liberty.

One knot of youngsters away from the spotlight was approached by an officer getting out of a patrol car and reminded: "Don't you forget.

Laser pen dangers highlighted as injuries increase

A new craze involving powerful laser pens has caused a string of injuries. As the number of victims rises, writes Jason Bennetto, Crime Correspondent, so does the pressure to introduce a ban.

A teacher, a Methodist minister, and a fireman, are among the latest victims of laser pens that can cause injury and temporary blindness.

The hand-held devices, which are supposed to be used by lecturers and teachers to pinpoint features with a red beam, are becoming increasingly popular with school-children and youths. They have a growing appeal at clubs and football matches. The battery-powered pointers can send out a thin beam of light for 200ft.

In two new cases a woman teacher had to go to hospital after a pupil shone a laser halt his sermon as a light was fired at him from outside the church.

The Rev Bruce Deakin was preaching to his congregation on Sunday evening 13 days ago when he suddenly felt a bright light "I felt disturbed and my vision became

blurred," recalled Mr Deakin, minister at The Avenue Methodist church, Sale, "Someone had caught my eye with a

laser light by shining it through the church's glass door. I was worried about it because I know about the dangers these things can cause. In the end I had to stop and ask are marketed as toys."

someone to get rid of the person with the

A fireman in Scotland recently needed hospital treatment for temporary blindness cause by a laser pen. Gordon Anderson, 38. from Gleurothes, Fife, was targeted by a gang of youths as he brought his fire engine into the local station.

And on Thursday the first prosecution took place against someone for using one of the pens, which cost between £40 and £65, but can purchased for as little as £10 abroad and off street sellers. Mark Taberer, 19, was given an absolute discharge and ordered to pay £25 costs at Leicester magistrates, after admitting common assault by shining a laser into a policeman's eyes.

The Home Office says the police already have the powers to arrest anyone caught with a laser pen if they believe they intend to cause injury. Those convicted could face up to four years in jail. But as the pens become more widely available, particularly in beam into her eye and a minister had to the North-east, trading standards officers are expected to press the Government to introduce a ban.

Experts have warned that exposure, could lead to permanent eye damage, par ticularly if the laser light is a more powerful variety. There is also a danger for motorist if they are temporarily blinded and lose control of their vehicle - a bus driver in Cheshire is claiming that his left eye is irrevocably damaged after being hit by a laser beam. Professor John Haywood, a medical physicist, said: "In the wrong hands they are as harmful as knives. This is a very serious health issue - these pens

NEW WEAPON IN UNRULY PUPILS' ARMOURY

A female teacher was waiting in the dinner queue at her school in Warrington. Cheshire, when she suddenly felt a sharp

A 15-year-old boy had fired a laser beam at her face, "She felt discomfort and her eye started to water," said the deputy headmaster of Padgate High School.

"She had to cover it and was taken to hospital, but fortunately there was no perhad been assaulted."

The school suspended the pupil responsible about a month ago for several days as a punishment and have banned the pening It has also warned parents in a newsletter about the lasers. The comprehensive school contacted the police and the local authority to seek advice. "We tried to find out how dangerous the pens are, but the health and safety people didn't know much about it at this stage," said the deputy. He added that manent damage. We decided the teacher there have been reports of youngsters taking the pens to football games.

COMPUTER SYSTEMS

MILLIONS FACE STARVATION NORTH

This winter may prove to have devastating consequences for the people of North Korea. With the public's support, the Red Cross has ensured that basic medical and food aid has been reaching those who need it most. But supplies are running dangerously low at a time when help is needed more than ever before.

For the third consecutive year, a combination of devastating floods and drought has ruined harvests and destroyed homes. In parts of North Korca children are already having to live on a diet of tree bark and roots. But, without urgent help, many will not survive the bitter cold of the North Korean winter.

Help is needed urgently to avoid this catastrophe. In addition to food and medical equipment, blankets and winter jackets are now desperately needed. You can do something to prevent huge numbers of children suffering through the winter months. £26 could help feed a family of four for two months.

Please call now with your credit card donation. 0171 201 5040

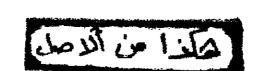


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The most heavily armed people in the world

Guns are everywhere in Yemen – as many as three for every one of the 17 million Yemenis, making them the most heavily armed people in the world. Patrick Cockburn in Sana'a says guns may have helped the tribesmen retain their personal freedom, but at nigh price to the

When Yemeni tribesmen recently released a group of foreign tourists they had kidnapped, they gave the women silver jewellery to show there were no hard feelings. The presents for the men were equally traditional: each was handed an old-fashioned but serviceable sub-machine-gun as a keepsake.

Yemen has often been called the Wild West of the Arab a firefight which left two farmworld, a place where the independent tribesman, loyal to his sheikh before the central government, is king. A better analogy might be the Scottish replacing the claymore as the symbol of tribal society.

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2.0

not extend far beyond the outskirts of the cities, a fact made clear when we tried to visit Jihanah, about 15 miles from Sana'a, the capital, where every second shops sells arms. We never made it. A few miles outside the city we came upon an army checkpoint, where the soldier on duty raised his hands to his head in theatrical alarm. Yemeni side of the two counat the idea of a foreigner going further down the road,

Eventually he agreed that we could go on, but suggested we take two soldiers as bodyguards. At the next checkpoint, a fortified military position defended by 40 troops, however, the officer in charge, though in a friendly mood as he chewed leaves of qat, a mildly narcotic plant, insisted that we return to south Yemen tried to secede in Sana'a. "There are many problems between the government and the tribes here," he explained. "Perhaps you will get

what had happened a week be- Yemeni proverb says: "A fore to Henry Thompson, a 38war-old British aid worker, as bought." The problem is that they are rented quite often-and road south of Sana'a, the threat did not seem remote. "Most of the old Scottish clans, the tribes Yemen is safe," asserted a of Yemen can be bought by anydiplomat back in the capital, "if body with money in his pocket.

you don't go off the beaten track." It is a significant qualification, because it is down such tracks and dirt roads that most Yemenis live in their stone-built villages, often built on pinnacles of rock or clinging to the side of mountains to leave land free for cultivation.

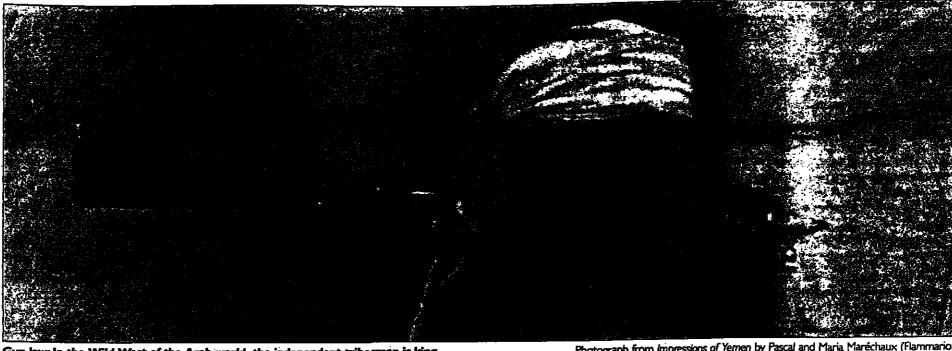
The mountains, where a few riflemen can cut a road, have enabled the tribes to maintain their independence and weakened the central governments. On the positive side, the weakness of the state - and the ability of the individual and tribe to protest effectively - gives political life in Yemen a democratic, though anarchic, flavour, which is unique in the Arab world outside Lebanon.

When the government raised the price of diesel this week farmers immediately held protest rallies. At Dhamar, an old city of stone tower houses in the centre of a fertile mountain basin, they closed the main road and engaged the army in ers and one soldier dead.

Yemeni journalists complain they are prevented from giving the facts (the official government figure was just one dead Highlands before the battle of Cilloden, with the Kalashnikov fled version of life in Yemen sounds dramatic enough. For instance, the weekly paper al-Wah-Government authority does dawi earlier this month reported that a bomb had exploded outside the tax authority in Sana'a, and that a German scholar had escaped kidnapping by three armed men, though her driver was killed. The main story in the same newspaper reported indignantly on a road which Saudi Arabia is alleged to be building illegally on the tries' disputed border.

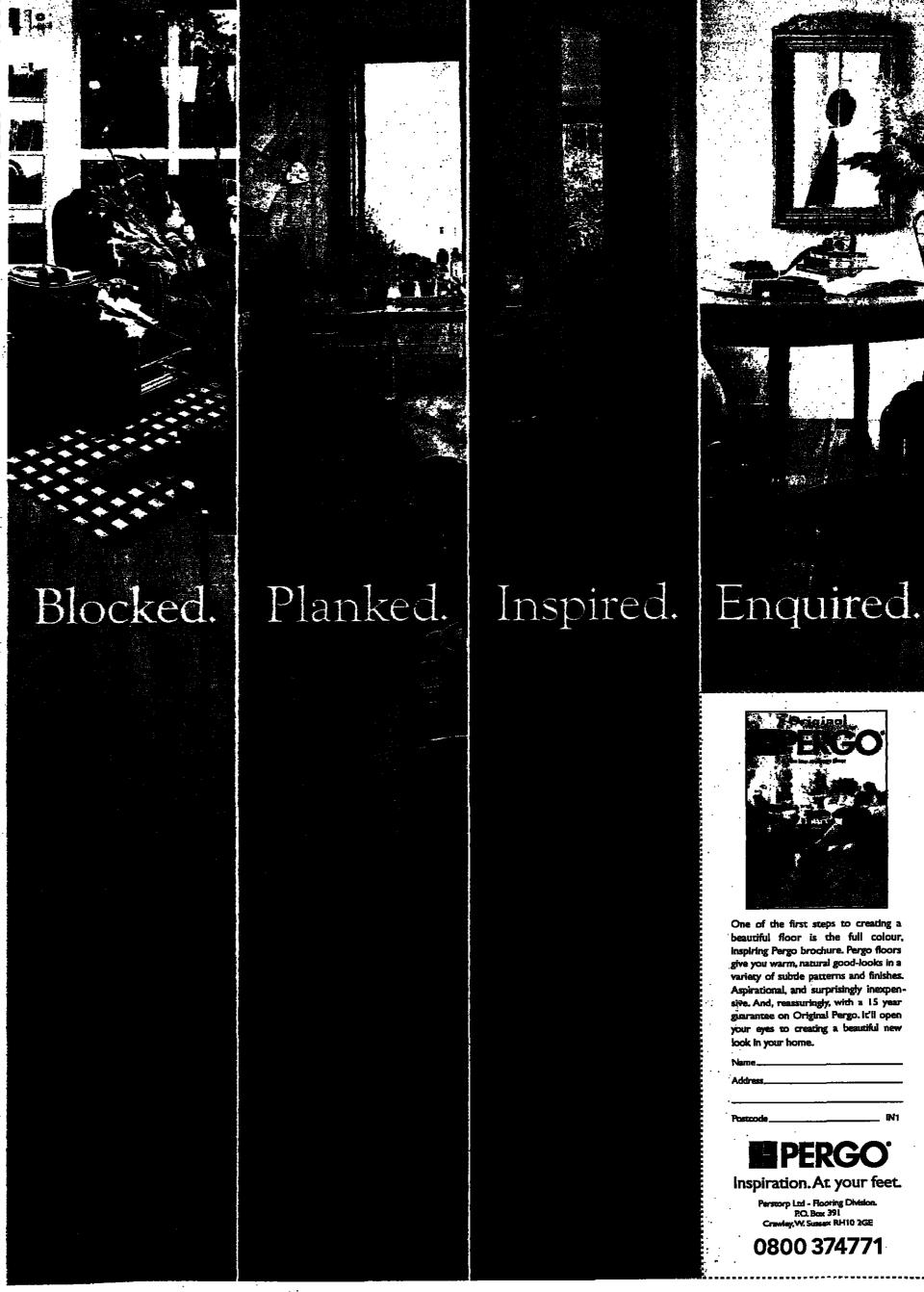
Such developments worry Yemenis more than gunfights, because Yemen's politics revolve round their relationship with their wealthier but less populous northern neighbour. In 1990. Saudi Arabia expelled 850,000 Yemeni workers. The economic disaster which followed was one reason why 1994, provoking a savage civil war in which several thousand Yemenis died.

Yemen pays a high price for the survival of the sturdily independent tribesmen. Yemeni can be rented but not invariably by Saudi Arabia. Like



Gun law: In the Wild West of the Arab world, the independent tribesman is king

Photograph from Impressions of Yemen by Pascal and Maria Maréchaux (Flammarion)





Riding down in the lift from his hotel room yesterday, Barry Scheck, the star lawyer on Louise Woodward's defence team, recognised someone from the court, leaned across to him and implored: "She is 100 per cent innocent. You do know that, don't you? Don't you?"

Why so anxious, Mr Scheck? Obviously, he had not yet had time to peruse the morning's papers and see their decidedly sympathetic take on the three hours that Louise was on the stand on Thursday.

"Experts: Woodward did well." "Composure under fire earns teen high marks." Teenager's testimony sways local audience." "Gentle defendant makes Murder One seem a stretch". And those are from just one paper.

Readers were even treated with the opinions of an eye-blink expert. Did you notice, for example, that Louise's eyes were only going at a rate of 11 blinks a minute while under direct examination by her own lawyer, and at just 13 blinks a minute when facing the prosecutor? The average rate for all of us is 15 to 25 blinks.

"She exudes a sense of self-confidence and self-constraint." the expert opined. Such a blink-rate "does not suggest someone who is easily prone to temperamental out-

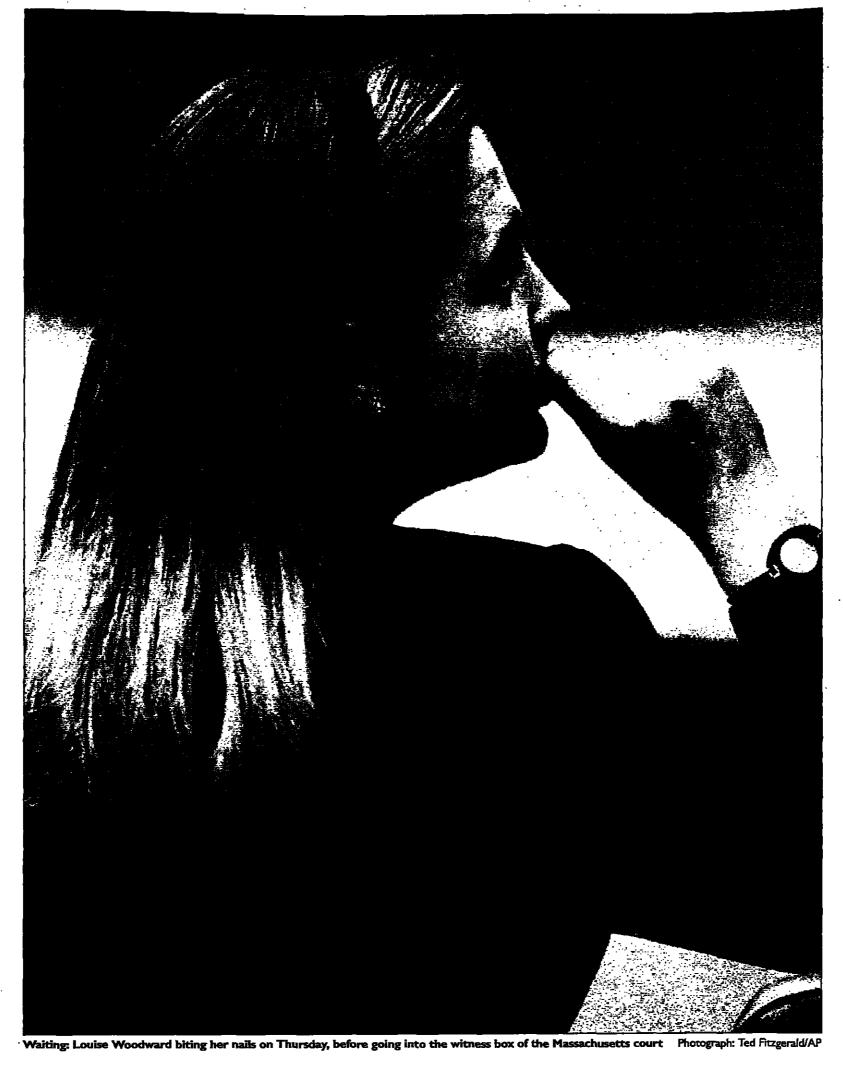
Scheck, whose role has been to offer alternative medical facts to contradict the prosecution's case, argued fiercely against putting Louise on the stand. Why take the risk, he asked his colleagues on the defence, when, on the medical evidence, they already seemed so far ahead? He felt they had had a fabulous week, bringing forward one expert after another, all with impeccable credentials, to testify that the shaking and the slamming of the victim's head, that the prosecution says occurred on 4 February, nev-

BY DAVID **USBORNE** AND JOJO **MOYES**

In spite of the intensely complex nature of some of the medical evidence, the jury had been presented with a new picture that, by Thursday, was not hard to grasp. The little boy, Matthew Eappen, had in fact, they contended, suffered an earlier, undetected, blow to the head that caused a blood clot beneath the skull, which, instead of naturally dissipating, began to re-bleed on or shortly before 4 February, causing a massive build-up of pressure on the brain, neurological collapse and, ultimately, death.

But Scheck, having lost the argument with his colleagues, could also have drawn reassurance yesterday (when, by the way, the court was dark) from the cacophony of commentary that has erupted across America's broadcast airwaves since Louise's testimony. On the cable channels that have been showing the trial live, gavel to gavel, few are the voices that dare call Louise's performance a sham. Predictions of acquittal fly with abandon; no one dares forecast a guilty verdict - or least not on the charge sought by the prosecution: first degree murder.

While, for American audiences, the nanny trial is still only a shadow of the ethercircus that the OJ Simpson trial became, it is attracting very wide coverage. Even among Britons, unused to the drama of Court TV, interest in the trial has been broadcasting the trial non-stop, said its viewing figures (normally between 50-70,000) increased "by 500-1,000 per cent" for Louise's testimony on Thursday. "We've had letters and calls talking about the case and coverage, there's a lot of interest out many British broadcast reporters one night there, and it's building as the verdict approaches," a spokesman said. "Because of the nature of Sky we were able to clear schedules and show it live. We've been more than justified in doing that,"



lite lorries around the 18-floor concrete come the main thrust of the defence stratcourthouse gets a little longer, and the numbers of producers from the national broadcast news-magazine shows multiply. Good Morning America, Primetime Live, Dateline NBC. Everyone is there. Above all, they have come for Louise herself. It is very rare for defendants in murder trials to take the mounting. Sky News, which has been stand in America, thus her testimony is an

instant sensation. In addition, the American press finds fascination in the subtext about the boy's mother, Deborah Eappen. Indeed, there last week, when the nightly ABC news bulletin baldly told viewers that shifting the blame away from Louise towards the mother - as a person who chose to consign

egy. Not so.

Through all the three weeks so far, relations between American and British reporters have been mutually suspicious. We were perceived as having smeared the American justice system as unfair and automatically biased against Louise; we saw cause to accuse some of them of skewing coverage unfairly against the "haby-killer"

The tensions briefly revealed themselves after court closed on Thursday, A producer was outright astonishment amongst the for the ITV documentary series. The Big Story, who has mysteriously appointed himself protector to the Woodwards, took exception to the American TV reporters who pounced upon the family as they left the court building. He told the Americans her children to a foreign, teenage, stranger to back off and implied that while he was

With each passing day, the snake of satel- in favour of her medical career - had be- a serious "investigative" reporter, they assuredly were not. Whereupon an American network cameraman invited the Brit to repeat what he had just said, on camera, and risk having said equipment inserted

where it would hurt. Mostly it is about semantics. Louise seemed "cool" and "calculating" in court to American reporters. To us, she was "stoic" or "composed". Beginning a radio bulletin on Thursday, one US correspondent began, "At last, Louise Woodward has shown some emotion...

The cultural divide also finds its way occasionally into the court itself.

There was general bafflement on Thursday, for example, when Louise tried to describe a baby vest she had put on the victim as a garment that closed around the crotch with "poppers". Poppers here imply a widely available recreational drug.

The right word was snaps, but Louise could not find it.

The question being widely asked is whether the jury might confuse the so-called "Britishness" of Louise, her reserve and her relative disdain for in-court emotion, with stone-heartedness. Its members, however, are a sophisticated bunch from one of the most savvy cities of the nation. Probably, they will have no trouble telling the dif-

In Louise's home town of Elton. in Cheshire, there has never been any doubt. convinced of her innocence; this week, they believe that view has become more wide-

Louise's friends, Linsey. He said yesterday that the mood there, where locals had been from the prosecution is still to come. glued to their televisions, had definitely

picked up, following Louise's testimony. "It's definitely changed a bit this week. But then it always looks black when the prosecution outline their case, just as it always looks better when the defence makes theirs, doesn't it?" be said. "We're countously optimistic, but then most people thought she was innocent here anyway.

Friends of the Woodwards have set up an appeal fund, to help finance Sue Woodward's stay in Boston, and Louise's reversecharge phone calls home. By yesterday they had raised more than £13,000, and cheques are still coming in. Sandra McCabe, one of those helping with the fund, said it has come about because "from day one we never for one minute ever faltered in our belief that Louise was innocent."

"We saw those first images of Louise, dragged out of the van in chains - it was shocking to think it was someone we knew. You see, we were all young couples who moved in at the same time, and we watched these children grow up - everyone knows everyone. You watch out for other people's children, even if you only know them by sight."

Despite the extraordinary situation in which they find themselves, support for the Woodwards has a peculiarly English tone. It is all a long way from the heated courtrooms of Cambridge, Massachusetts. They have held car-boot sales, talent nights in the local pub, and the owner of a local business has shaved his head for charity.

"We've had a gentleman, George, writing every week from Sussex; he sends a cheque for £20. There are lots of envelopes from people just saying they're praying for Louise. It has surprised us because in the beginning it was more or less just a village thing," Mrs McCabe said. "Some friends of Sue's in the next village did a casino night and Ladbroke's did a free race-night for us in July. The response has been 99 per cent

A 24-hour, 7-day prayer hot-line has been set up so that someone, throughout the village and the surrounding area, is always praying for Louise. A businessman has donated T-shirts printed with the words: "The Woodward Appeal: To all caring and compassionate people." Unexpected support has come from two members of the Royal Family, who wrote to say that they were monitoring the case.

The village, says Sandra McCabe, is A.s. iously watching the television in the runup to Tuesday, the expected date of the verdict. "But myself and the others, we've been optimistic from the beginning," she said yesterday. "All we wanted was that she got a fair trial, and it looks like she's getting one." Whatever the result, she says, Louise's ordeal has had an unexpected impact on village life. "I've lived here for 27 years and there's people you don't know. but you nod at when you see them in the shop. Now we don't nod at each other, we stop and talk," she said.

Stephen Jakobi, of the organisation Fair irials Abroad, has been advising Louise's parents since her arrest. He is unsugprised by the apparent swing in public op ion. "I'm glad in many ways that Louise was put in the box. It gives her the chance to say her piece, and it's very important for her so that she dispels any lingering doubt about herself, particularly that she loved that baby ... No one watching her testimony could have doubted her sincerity," he

If the trial had taken place in Britain. says Mr Jakobi, who is also convinced of Louise's innocence, it might well have been thrown out by now. "I'm really quite surprised that the case hasn't been stopped. A British judge might well have ruled that there wasn't a reasonable case for the just to convict. The first-degree murder charge is still a mind-hoggling thing."

Maybe Mr Scheck is just naturally cautious. He may not know it but on one phone-in show on MSNBC, in which The The vast majority of locals have always been Independent was a participant, an instant polling of viewers found that only 53 per cent saw grounds for reasonable doubt while 47 per cent still considered Louise guilty. Frank Jones is the father of one of It is also true that the really tough questioning of Louise under cross-examination

Tune in on Monday.

The odd pretender to the crown of Marco Polo

Did a Jewish-Italian merchant travel through China four years before Marco Polo and write up his adventures in a racy, spicy, moralising manuscript hidden from view for 700 years? Or is the world of historical research about to consume the most lavish portion of egg-on-face since "The Hitler Diaries" fiasco? Whatever the outcome of the complex row that now surrounds it, David Selbourne's new edition of The City of Light by one Jacob d'Ancona has reminded all the warring parties that not everything written or printed on paper unquestionably counts as gospel truth. But perhaps every reader of the British press knew that already.

Selbourne, a prolific historian and political philosopher who himself travelled in China during his youthful Maoist days, is the son of an idealistic Salford GP and grandson of the great rabbinical thinker Moshe Avigdor Amiel. For two decades, he taught at Ruskin College, Oxford, the union-supported foundation, but became disenchanted by his increasingly bitter battles with the hard left.

Disgusted with British political and academic life, Selbourne moved to Urbino in central Italy. Three years ago, he anticipated many of Tony Blair's headline state. Jacob d'Ancona and David firm grip on customs revenues.

themes in his book The Principle of Duty. Placing its stress on responsibility instead of unearned rights, this gnomic tract advocated a "social-ism" that would place obligations on corporate fat-cats and benefit-seekers alike.

By that time, he says, he had already come across a late 13th-century manuscript in private hands: 280 pages in vernacular Italian with Hebrew elements, written on paper - still a novelty in Europe around 1280 - and bound in frayed vellum. It appears to be the record of Jacob d'Ancona's three-year trip around India and Indo-China to Zaitun (now Quanzhou), a sophisticated but demoralised "City of Light" on the South China coast. Jacob arrived in Zaitun in 1271; Marco Polo reached Xanadu

Jacob's tale (lavishly published by Little, Brown) reveals some uncanny parallels between public debates in late-Song China, then under threat from Mongol invaders, and late-1990s Britain. The businesslike but leisure-loving citizens of Zaitun chew over questions familiar to us -about community and individualism, the morality of the marketplace, teenage sex, the role of disparate faiths in a unified

Selbourne certainly make a marriage of true minds. Selbourne claims that "There is very little in his manuscript that does not address today's problems, showing how perennial they are".

He professes himself satisfied with Jacob's bona fides: "The accuracy of his record is on the whole impressive". Other specialists are not so sure. The oriental scholar and novelist Robert Irwin tentatively raised the possibility that Selbourne was hoaxed. Now, in the London Review of Books, the eminent Sinologist TH Barrett of London University argues that The City of Light is a modern forgery.

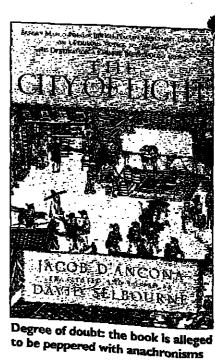
Barrett thinks it peppered with anachronisms about the life and customs of the period, and with characters that crop up in no other Chinese source. Jacob meets graduates holding kinds of degrees that (according to Barrett) did not then exist. He reports a scholar using the word "Hui" for Muslims, although the term, Barrett alleges, did not come into use until after 1348. Jacob writes about the decay of religious faith when the weight of evidence suggests a thriving popular piety. And he on to his status as the first recorded Eudescribes Zaitun as a sort of free port; in ropean China hand? fact, the local ruler, Pu Shougeng, kept a

"It is hard enough nowadays to get our children and students to do their homework," laments Barrett, "so when even our forgers turn out to be unacceptably indolent, there can be little hope for education". For scholars, the unavailability of the original manuscript - still secreted with its owner in the Marche region of Italy. with not even a single page photographically reproduced in the new edition - has clearly set alarm-bells ringing.

Barrett also raises the question of why Little, Brown has such total confidence in Jacob's authenticity. In fact, Little, Brown did remove about 20 per cent of Jacob's text. Philippa Harrison, the chief executive and publisher of Little, Brown, reports that "generalists such as Robyn Davidson and Paul Theroux have been awed by the book, Sinologists divided and dubious, and nobody has published any reactions from Judaic or medieval Italian

Selbourne is reported to be "dismayed" by the quarrel. A showdown must come soon. Will Marco Polo hang

- Boyd Tonkin, Literary Editor



Franz Lehár's 'Merry Widow' usually comes dressed to kill. So why, asks Edward Seckerson, has the Royal Opera stripped her bare?

She's not always been treated with respect, it's true. Over the years, we've tended to take her charms for granted, cheapening her reputation, undermining her sophistication, turning her into rather too much of a goodtime girl. But at least Lehár's "Widow" was merry, captivating, exuberant, and always - always - looked good for her money.

Graham Vick's new production for the Royal Opera at the Shaftesbury Theatre is none of those things. In his well-intentioned attempts to rediscover her, to "understand" her (heaven forbid), to recapture something of her elusive appeal, to return us to that state of grace where she's no longer merely the mother of reprises, a good turn to be had by all (that naughty word "operetta" is to blame), he's left her flat, bereft. In short, she's been robbed. Of her décor, for starters.

Vick and his designer, Richard Hudson, have reverted (characteristically) to the "blank canvas" look. Well, not entirely blank. A series of canvases, as often as not bearing litthe more than a single brush stroke -the merest suggestion of a drape, a staircase, a mounted bussar, a lady's hand, a crescent moon - mark out time and place. But essentially Hudson's minimalistically chic setting amounts to an empty violet-blue box.

nof

Empty being the operative word. For I can honestly say that I've never seen a Graham Vick production that was physically, dramatically, quite so inexplicably impoverished. Presumably his intention was to strip away the window-dressing and clear the dance floor for this night of wine, women and liebesliederwaltzer. Yet, by Vick standards (and those of his choreographic "tsar" Ron Howell), movement and blocking are at best rudimentary, at worst cumbersome – conspicuously lacking in either eroticism or wit. By far the best visual gag of the evening is in place before the front cloth (a rather cheeky allusion to the distinctive Royal Opera House curtains) has even risen - and that's a row of whitegloved hands serving as footlights.

And so it comes to pass that Hanna Glawari (the "Merry Widow" herself) makes her much-vaunted arrival (the operetta equivalent of Der Rosenkavalier's "Presentation of the Rose") ay downstage through what mis just as well be the tradesmen's en-



Felicity Lott's Hanna may be short on glamour but she can still float a B that goes on for ever Laune Lewis

cast, and it doesn't matter how often

a deliberate ploy to remind us of her "common" stock. At any rate, it's a messy business, with maje admirers buzzing around the proverbial honeypot in such a way as to draw attention to the awkwardness of both the space and the blocking. You really don't expect to be taking Vick (or Howell) to

task on matters of basic stagecraft. So what of the play? Surely that's tion in the hands of a United Nations т we're talking here of a producer who made even the you make capital of the language bar-

ment of accents, when the jokes aren't Well, we've a cracking new translation from Jeremy Sams - that's as good a intelligible and/or fluently played (beheadstart as you could hope for these days. Anyone who can make a rhyme the delivery of one or two participants of "chanteuses" and "floosies", who here), then you have problems. can underline the significance of a key prop - namely the "fan fatale" - so a pig," exclaims Claudio Desderi's deftly, should be a joy to play. Trouble is that this is an English transla-

Baron Zeta in a pigeon-English verging on self-parody. It's funny to begin with but, hold on, there's a whole lot

A couple of years back, Tom Stoptrance. Or is this cramping of her style dialogue in Beethoven's Fidelio work. rier by gently sending up the assort- pard devised a narration for concert. WC2. Booking: 0171-304 4000

performances of the Widow in which the "minor" character of Njegus, clerk at the Pontevedrian Embassy, declared himself the driving force of the entire piece. David Ross, who plays him here with timing as sure as his Yorkshire accent is broad, almost succeeds in turning Stoppard's contentious joke into a reality.

Almost, but not quite. Thank heavens for Thomas Allen. Isn't he a little, well, mature for the dashing Count Danilo? That rather depends on how much time has elapsed since he and Hanna first met. But he's still the sexiest and most charismatic thing on the stage. When he and Felicity Lott's widow are one-to-one (and their close encounters with the waltz are still the highlights of the evening), we can sit back and enjoy the endearing spectacle of two old stagers who don't take themselves too seriously but who instinctively know the meaning of bittersweetness, regret, second chances. They spar charmingly. ("Perhaps you ought to charge," suggests Hanna, with reference to his hussar's attire. "I'd make a fortune," he counters.)

Vocally, Lott still makes a lovely sound, even if the joins are now rather too audible. She can still place the closing phrases of "Vilja" like she never wants to let go of them, and still manage a floated B natural that goes on for ever. For Allen, too, Danilo sits comfortably, suavely, in the bestpreserved part of his voice. Together they shame their young counterparts, Juliette Galstian's Valencienne and Luca Canonici's Camille de Rosillon, both of whom lack their ease, style, vocal enticement. These times need singing, really singing. You surrender to them or they pass you by.

Rather like this production. Who'd have thought that Graham Vick would find his nemesis in Franz Lehar? Still, as Dietfried Bernet fair licked into the prelude with the promise of a vitality that was never to materialise on stage, it was at least reassuring to know that the Royal Opera had got the venue right, that Lehar's Merry Widow belonged in a theatre such as this (remember, the Widow's London coming-out was at the Palladium). Its modest pit-sized band sounded well in the Shaftesbury, with first-desk violins sweetly redolent of another time, another place. A faded glamour. And lieve me, you could get splinters from - just when you were thinking that the whole evening was on the floor, never to pick itself up, along came that "Count Danilo speaks French like most insidiously memorable of waltzes to take hold of the senses where words and actions had failed.

To 11 Nov, then 31 Dec and 1-10 Jan (with three alternate casts) at the bury Ave and High Holborn), London

A WEEK IN THE ARTS DAVID LISTER

once asked Baroness Detta O'Cathain, when she was head of the Barbican Centre, what she considered her greatest achievement in arts administration. "I changed the caterers," she replied. At the time I regarded this as outrageous philistinism but, increasingly, I'm beginning to think she had her priorities right.

Last Monday, at the David Helfgott concert at the Royal Albert Hall, I had a snack in the Hall's restaurant. Two slices of bread with a small piece of smoked salmon on each cost well over £6, as did a half bottle of house plonk. With neither pub



nor wine bar in walking distance of the Hall, the RAH has a captive audience. I've since asked some of the promoters who use the Hall what they think of these prices, and they admit they are unaware of them: they only eat and drink at the heavily subsidised artists' bar. In fact, few theatre directors, I've found, know the cost of an interval drink or ice cream at their venues. Yet poor or expensive service there can colour a whole evening. I would be interested to hear from readers of their experiences of catering abuse at theatres and concert halls. The guilty directors who advocate arts for the people, then charge the people through the nose for a half-time snack, will be duly shamed.

The claim by National Gallery director Neil MacGregor that Renoir's Les Paraphties may be the first "politically correct" painting, after X-ray work showed that the artist altered it over the years to include what can be interpreted as a scene of sexual harassment, has provoked a number of you to write in after I reported MacGregor's theory on the front of The Eye. A number of you suggest that the "guilty" man is in fact learing not at the uncomfortable-looking woman in front of him but at the little girl on the opposite side of the canvas, making this the first paedophile painting. But the majority take the cynical view that this is the National Gallery taking liberties with Renoir to drum up publicity for MacGregor's excellent BBC2 series Making Masterpieces (which continues on Monday at 7.30pm). One woman wrote in French, claiming to be the lady in the painting and signing herself "Mimi", although the Norwich postmark casts considerable doubt on her authenticity. Still. her explanation for the cause of her discomfort - namely that she alone, of all the people in the picture, isn't carrying an umbrella - sounds to me highly plausible, if disappointingly unpolitical.

This week's reports of the British Museum's exciting new development scheme left out one factor the BM is keeping rather quiet, perhaps fearful of a staff uprising: it is to ban car parking from the forecourt. This can be chalked up as a victory for The Independent's campaign to clear cars from cultural spaces, and can be added to Horseguards Parade and (shortly) the Royal Academy and Courtauld Institute. When I first asked the BM about this three years ago, the response was Thankfully, the impossible is achievable, even if it does take

THEATRE

Patrick Marber's 'Closer' has transferred to the Lyttelton after a sell-out season in the Cottesloe. Paul Taylor wonders what all the fuss is about

When Patrick Marber woke up to the reviews for his second play, Closer, last May, he must have wondered whether (a) he had died and gone to Heaven or (b) he was the victim of some widespread hoax. "He has written one of the best plays of sexual politics in the language." proclaimed one critic. "It is right up there with Williams' Streetcar, Mamet's

Oleanna, Albee's Virginia Woolf, Pinter's Old Times and Hare's Skylight."

Nothing if not well-intentioned, that's the sort of review that could lead both to howling writer's block for the lucky recipient and to keen disappointment for audiences primed to arrive with unreasonable expectations. Seeing Closer for the first time now in its semi-recast transfer from the Cottesloe to the Lyttelton, I sincerely hope I am reacting to the play rather than to the hype, but I am afraid it struck me as a piece of human algebra - albeit technically brilliant - and as the kind of "searing" male lowdown on the awfulness of men that wins rather more moral Brownie points for courageous self-exposure than it actually deserves.

An erotic square-dance to the music of

time (three and half years of it), Closer trains its narrow, stifling focus on a foursome whose occupations offer too little resistance to the play's preoccupations. There's a waiflike stripper who gets stripped of her life by a newspaper obituarist and would-be creative writer when he puts her experiences in his first book. There's a male dermatologist and a female photographer, mechanically well placed, by their line of work, to introduce issues like exposure and the

link between surface and psychic scars. Calculated to within an inch of its mannered, staccato Pinter-ish life, the play does not discover its vision of the world and of heterosexual relations from these characters, it imposes an a priori vision upon them. The most celebrated scene in the play is the

Strong's Dan, the obituarist, after being rebuffed by the photographer, gets his revenge by posing as a sluttish, nympho version of her on the internet and engaging in pornographic cybersex fantasies with the tumes-

cent dermatologist, Larry (Neil Dudgeon). Well, call me priggish, but I could never have mistaken the bilarious filth that pours from the busy fingers of Dan here as the work of a woman (e-mail from women putting me right about that will be gratefully received). OK, arousal can dampen your literary critical faculties; on the other hand, I believe that Marber's priority here - to show how women are significantly absent in this most skewed but most successful exchange of intimacies in

blackly comic, silent one in which Mark the play - has perhaps led him to underestimate the Larrys of this world.

Marber makes dutiful efforts to show that the women (played by Sally Dexter and Liza Walker) are far from beyond reproach, but his heart is in exposing the men and the sexual insecurity that leads to their bullying, sadomasochist need to know the anatomical facts (as opposed to the truth) about their partners' infidelities. "If women saw one minute of our home movies, the shit that slops through our mind every day... they'd string us up by our balls," opines Larry. Fair enough, but often the mean-spiritedness of the male characters is in danger of over-

flowing into Marber's treatment of them. To an artificial degree, the play is lacking in dramatic situations that would re-

ally put the various definitions of love to the test. There's an implied contrast in the piece between Dan and his hopeless novel ("Why won't be write something that will burt him? He won't go near himself") and Marber and the painfully self-implicating Closer. But I detect a faint odour of sanctimony. After all, a man who points out that men are shits is not in a mortally high-risk position these days. The men are both nicer and worth more than they get credit for being here. Marber has enormous ability and must not allow the adulation he has received for this play to deflect him from the genuinely dangerous material he is perhaps uniquely equipped to tackle. In repertoire at the Lyttelton Theatre, RNT. Booking: 0171-928 2252

THE WEEK IN REVIEW DAVID BENEDICT

THE PLAY

A Delicate Balance

Edward Albee's 1966, elegant, elusive family drama with a wintery. Pintery flavour of nameless threat is directed by Anthony Page. Eileen Atkins and Maggie Smith as sisters head a classy cast. Theatre Royal, Haymarket (0171-930 8800)

Paul Taylor loved it. "Eileen Atkins is the refined fort and Maggie Smith the raffish loose cannon in Anthony Page's wonderful staging ... one of Albee's main claims to classic status." "A tremendous evening, and a metaphorical version of all our unspoken arguments," sang the Mail. "Page's lucid production generally lacks the emotional intensity of the 1996 American production ... one of the most disturbing dark comedies of our time," proclaimed the Standard. "Six excellent actors find themselves in a pickle," opined the FT. "A hollowly rhetorical second-rate play ... this production flatters it magnificently," declared the Telegraph. "Albee's sinewy play, rich in social and political meaning, survives a production clearly in thrall to the clamorous Dame Maggie," revealed The Guardian.

The accents are execrable but the play finally finds its balance. James Laurenson is superb.



THE OPERA

From the House of the Dead

Tim Albery directs Janacek's final opera, a prison drama conducted by Paul Daniel, preceded by Twice Through the Heart. Mark-Anthony Turnage's setting of Jackie Kay's poem. In rep at ENO. The Coliseum, London WC2 (0171-632 8300)

Edward Seckerson was enthralled. "Suffused by a surreal glow ... This is an ENO special in terms of its company spirit, its collective energy and focus ... unquenchable lyricism straining for release." "Janacek's most extraordinary score. Paul Daniel conducts it at white-heat and encourages both his orchestra and the men of the ENO chorus to believe in it too," saluted The Guardian. "One of ENO's best achievements ... a triumph for Paul Daniel ... a welcome reminder of Tim Albery's exceptional gifts," gloried the FT. "The best evening I've had at English National Opera for years," cried the Telegraph. "Individual star performances ... Whoever had the idea of performing Twice Through the Heart as a curtain-raiser deserves a medal," cheered The Times.

A low-key, high-definition production of a masterpiece.



THE FILM

A Life Less Ordinary

Director Danny Boyle, producer Andrew MacDonald and screenwriter John Hodge abandon Trainspotting for romantic comedy complete with angelic intervention. Ewan McGregor and Cameron Diaz star. Cert 15, 103 mins. On general release.

Adam Mars-Jones thought that "McGregor is very good but perhaps the screenplay is a little self-conscious in its own innocence." "Plays on the cusp of thriller and fantasy ... Better than either of the trio's previous films, if more flawed," averred the Telegraph. "Grown-up, sassy, charming and cheeky," grinned The Express. "Brilliant, deranged, heart-melting," screamed Sky Magazine. This sprawling, uneven, impossible-to-dislike movie," wobbled The Guardian. "Our hearts are not with these characters, which makes the film's twists, turns and elongations increasingly difficult to take," sighed The Times. "Nothing is as embarrassing as a cute ending to a romantic comedy gone wrong,' warned the FT. "Quite a misfire ... The Coen Brothers meet Frank Capra... it's a mismatch made in beaven," winced Time Out.

Not up there with Bringing Up Baby, but nor does it lurk with the likes of For Pete's Sake.



THE WEEK ON RADIO ROBERT HANKS

Nation shall speak unto nation, but only if it's in RP

Microphones are dangerous objects. You take a risk putting anybody in front of one, even a hardened professional - that just makes it a more calculated risk. Mouths shoot off in all directions, words can take on a life of their own - nouns try to be verbs, names shift themselves uneasily; the word you're looking for goes missing, and another one you didn't mean jumps into its place. And - bingo! - before you know it, "the batsman's Holding, the bowler's Willey" or some such, and you're heading for immortality as a radio blooper.

So you can sympathise with Lord Reith, founder of the BBC, who in 1924, so we learnt from What You Say Delights Me (Radio 4, Saturday), declared that being in front a microphone was a privilege to be granted only to those who had something special to say. Jeanette Thomas's feature. broadcast as part of the BBC's 75th anniversary celebrations, took the opposite view, however - casting Reith as the villain, and the Common Man and Woman as heroes, struggling to make themselves heard. The title came from a classic cross-class confrontation, recorded in 1952, which was used to set the tone for the programme. A lady with decidedly received pronunciation was interviewing an elderly, and

slightly deaf, man about the delights of Timbridge Wells: "It must be healthy for you to be looking so wonderful at this age," she coaxed. "Well," he returned, testily, "why shouldn't I look wonderful?" "That, of course, comes from the inner spirit, I know," she said, trying hard to retrieve some bonhomie. Here he turned to pleading: "I don't know what you want me to say. If I can say anything to please you I will, but..." The RP lady jumped in: "Oh, what you're saying delights me."

There were plenty of other instances of this uneasy condescension scattered throughout the programme - of working people treated like zoological specimens by middle-class broadcasters convinced they were addressing other middle-class people - and Andy Kershaw, the presenter, worked himself into a fine old lather about it. I couldn't quell a sense of uneasiness towards the end of the programme, as we reached the phone-in age, when the script seemed to suggest that screening callers was somehow undemocratic - that access ought to be unrestricted. That way lies Talk Radio, Nicky Campbell on Radio 5 and other, even

cheaper and nastier, kinds of madness. All the same, it was a very fine programme, a reminder that the BBC isn't a dear old auntie: for much of its existence it's been a Victorian paterfamilias, and really not at all lovable. On the other hand, how many other institutions would allow themselves to be so thoroughly rubbished as part of their birthday celebrations?

Other sorts of exclusion were examined in one of the other anniversary items - Under the Loofah Tree (R4, Saturday), Giles Cooper's 1958 play about a man spending the morning in his bathtub. It's a sort of Secret Life of Walter Mitty, but darker -Edward Thwaite's dreams aren't so much a way of escaping his dull, responsible adult life as a different sort of cage: when he appears on a This Is Your Life-style programme, his mother returns from the dead to complain about the trouble she had with him and moan that she wants to be alive; other guests don't remember him at all.

The play shows a brilliant understanding of how radio can work - Cooper used the strange intimacy of the medium to create a queasily familiar, solipsistic world. But solipsism is the condition radio is always nudging towards - something to be fought against, not exploited and encouraged. So, a classic, I grant you; but, like so many classics, to be admired from a distance.



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The incorporation into British law of the European Convention on Human Rights is a progressive step. It is, or ought to be, an instalment in a wider programme of bringing Britain's governing institutions up to date. If Margaret Thatcher's decade saw much-needed modernisation of the British economy - New Labour does not dispute that - then the Blair decade (if that is what he is going to get) ought to be about complementary modernisation of our democracy.

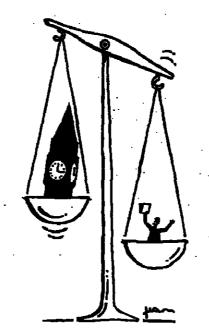
Its bullet points are obvious: electoral reform, reformation of Parliament, the transfer of decision-making closer to people by means of devolution. High on that list is arming British judges with a tool for better balancing the rights of individuals taxed, regulated and policed by

The European Convention has long been accepted as a reasonable statement of those rights. More often cited than read, it is wordy, ambiguous and showing its age. British courts have already gone a long way in adopting its spirit. Yet its incorporation in the law of this land, if nothing else, saves litigants the delay and cost of a journey to Alsace. What the Government is offering is economical and simplifying. It is also slightly risky, depending as it does on the cleverness and

the caution of judges. With it, however, Labour redeems a central election promise. This is progress.

Yesterday's White Paper is a neat exhibition of what is emerging as Jack Straw's political character, he is a liberal dressed in conservative clothing. It is imagmatively drafted. Are the Tories really going to oppose a measure which identifies the impeccably Conservative Lord Kilmuir as its ultimate author? Constitutional radicals may express disappoint^oment that British judges are not going to be em-powered to "strike down" all British law found to contravene rights as stated in the convention - though they will get power to override what is called secondary legislation, such as benefit rules and police regulations. But the Government is wise to steer clear of such a radical transfer of political power to the judiciary.

That phrase "strike down" is an American import. In the United States, judges have 220 years of history and convention to draw on, let alone a stout constitution of which they are the acknowledged custodians. British conditions are incomparable. Judges simply do not possess the social, political or cultural presence to become legislators. Parliament is an imperfect instrument of representative government, to be sure: for operational



purposes it too often means the will of a party majority expressed in the House of Commons. Accountability is not exhausted by the process of national elections to the House of Commons. And yet elections, however tainted by our first-pastthe-post system, confer a special legitimacy which no judge, however wise, however

bound to the text of a document couched in the language of rights, can aspire to.

The White Paper formula will allow judges confronting a disparity between the law and rights to make a declaration. Ministers will be obliged to open a "fast track" for remedial legislation. This sounds like a wise compromise. Here is a power to mix it in the public sphere which the senior judiciary will use with the greatest of care. But for their part, ministers will be obliged to look sharpish when their law is found wanting.

The culture of the European Convention is essentially individualist, suspicious of the powers of the state. In its light police officers, taxmen, councils, Whitehall departments are all potential aggressors. This, of course, chimes with the British mood - which makes it all the more paradoxical that the United Kingdom should have been first to ratify the convention and just about last to incorporate it into domestic law. Now, individuals acquire a powerful weapon for struggles with the state to come.

Yet the fair operations of the state depend on a two-way flow of rights and responsibilities. Incorporation must not become an occasion for whingeing to be constitutionally enfranchised. Human rights actions should not be part of the

culture of complaint. For this reason, the Government - though it couches its reasons in terms of public spending - is right to resist the creation of a new organ of state in the form of a human rights commission, to assist people to mount cases. This belongs in the private sphere. There is nothing stopping business or individuals contributing towards the cost of a notfor-profit human rights body.

Human rights are not, ultimately, for the courts but for the political arena. The White Paper does not say this, but per-haps in the course of debate ministers will, even if it rebounds on them. The main stage for adjusting the boundary between state and individual has to be democratic politics. It is through the election of representatives, locally as well as centrally, that we get the chance to design systems of public service which do not abuse citizens, which contain within them ways in which complaints and grievances are handled and resolved. Going to the courts for redress is evidence of the state's failure. Incorporation of the convention ought, first and foremost, to mean that civil servants, council officials, police officers and ministers carry out their jobs more acutely conscious of proper procedure and the rights of those they are meant to serve.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Islamic vs secular

Sir: Nothing is as likely to expose the hypocrisy of liberal secularism as the subject of Muslim schools, and in her article "In defence of Islamophobia" (23 October), Polly Toynbee doesn't let us down. Her anger is far from rational.

She suggests that Britain follows the United States: forbid religion in schools and communities will not be "marginalised". To disagree is to be irrational, And yet, American society is fragmented in many ways, not least of which are the secular/religious and inter-religious divides. Such divisions need not be damaging. They can celebrate the diversity of culture within multi-cultural societies. To force all children into secular schools against the wishes of their parents denies multi-culturalism and places Ms Toynbee alongside the Teb-

Legislation in this and other countries allows educational pluralism which caters for all; it is popular with parents and academically successful. Denying Muslim parents the choice enjoyed by others - or any parents any choice at all - is unacceptable discrimination promoting a secularised and spiritually diminished society.

Polly Toynbee's is actually an argument against genuine liberal values. In this democratic society, I have to accept that Polly Toynbee is proud to be an "Islamophobe ... a Christophobe" and an all-round "religiophobe". But do us all a favour, Polly, in future "bigot" will suffice.

IBRAHIM HEWITT Development Officer Association of Muslim Schools of United Kingdom and Eire Leicester

Sir: Polly Toynbee points to countries where Islam is the main faith to justify her intolerance. There are many brutal and oppressive secular states in the world, but we do not use that as an excuse to treat secularists in Britain unjustly.

The victims of Islamophobia are some of the most vulnerable members of society. Yet, as the report on Islamophobia clearly shows, they are not adequately protected by current legislation. Islamophobia means exclusion, discrimination, prejudice and violence. And Polly Toynbee is content to call herself an Islamophobe? MUHAMMAD USAMAH Education Officer The Muslim Educational Trust

London N4

Sir: Polly Toynbee States that Islam is "a religion that describes women as of inferior status". Islam describes women as different: woman is the perfect partner and balance for man. and vice versa; we are neither superior nor inferior, and of equal measure to men in the sight of God, being the recipient of fair and equal measures of mercy and also bearing the same religious responsibilities.

Had UK Muslims criticised extremist behavior such as the absurd fatwa against Salman As for her feelings against Rushdie their acceptance in to

Girls in a British Islamic school, learning 'solid morals with discipline and respect'

the community would not have same principle to be true of heen in question. TONY FREEMAN

where there is no respect for au-Sir: Jack Straw is to be congratulated on resisting dethority, they may get knifed, they will encounter drugs, alcohol and mands to introduce legislation pre-marital sex? to protect Muslims from religious discrimination (report, 23 Which Muslim mother October). It is to be hoped that wouldn't send her child to the safe haven of an Islamic he will finally turn down requests for state support for Isschool? In such schools solid lamic schools too. morals are taught with disci-

London WI

Muslim, schools, what choice

does a Muslim mother have? Do

L as an English Muslim, send my

children to a secular school

where they may be bullied,

are covered by existing race re-

lations legislation. If she were

to convert to Islam (you never

know), and be banned by An-

drew Marr from wearing a

headscarf in Canary Wharf,

she would have no recourse to

law. A young Asian woman

in court that the headscarf is a

custom of Pakistan, where her

parents came from. Polly Toyn-

bee would have to rely on

Robert Fisk putting in a good

word with the boss.

Professor GORDON

University of Sussex

British Muslims and

The writer is chair of the

Runnymede Commission on

Sir. No legislation will do for the

UK Muslim community what it

must do for its self. By stead-

fastly refusing to publicly con-

demn actions of Muslim states

that contravene basic British

values, it has - by default- be-

come identified with them.

Vice-Chancellor

CONWAY

Brighton

Islamophobia

might be successful in arguing

prefer it.

Having seen the way that pline and respect. This may sectarian education has reinsound dull and dictatorial to the likes of Polly Toynbee, but we forced intercommunal violence in Northern Ireland, he should SARAH MOORE be looking at ways to reduce support for Christian schools, rather than widening the scope of subsidised religious denom-Sir: Polly Toynbee is wrong in claiming that British Muslims inational indoctrination.

The excellent Comment by Polly Toynbee raises issues to which the government should now be giving the most serious consideration. ERIC THOMPSON London NW2

Sir: 1 found myself agreeing with Polly Toynbee, not because I am an Islamophobe, but in her insistence that a law against religious discrimination would stifle debate about religion and free speech.

But is Ms Toynbee's argument that you can only judge a religion by the worst of its followers rational? I cannot speak for Islam, but Christianity itself has not caused the problems in Northern Ireland. How could a faith that demands we love our enemies and turn the other cheek do that? Behaviour that contradicts these principles is sub-Christian, whatever the perpetrators of such behaviour call themselves.

Does Ms Toynbee hold the

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number. Fax 0171 293 2056: e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Better I said that I would be happy to hear solutions other than atheists? Is the only true atheist a bad one? I suppose that my own. The response has been an evasive silence. Tossing a few Stalinist Russia or atheistic Albania - dull, intolerant, murapples over the wall in the form of scholarships, or allowderous regimes - are the standards by which we must ing the educational peasantry view Polly Toynbee's rationalaccess to the sporting facilities of their betters would do much ist vision for Britain. The Rev GUY A DAVIES for our social consciences, but Stalbridge, Dorset not for our schools. GEORGE WALDEN

London W12

Price of gay lifestyle

Sir: Thank you, Miles Kington.

for taking a small step towards

facing the truth about homo-

sexuality ("A handbagging for

Oscar Wilde", 21 October).

The sordid reality is indeed very

different from the lofty image

the gay rights movement has

been promoting. The risks of a

homosexual lifestyle have been

hushed up, and the medical

A 20-year-old homosexual

man faces a 30 per cent chance

of being HIV positive or hav-

ing Aids by the time he is 30.

and regular receptive homo-

sexual intercourse carries a 30-

fold increase in the risk of anal

cancer [Macphail G L. Dept of

Medicine and Infectious Dis-

eases. University of Calgary.

"Alberta Report", 14 Oct 1996].

The mean age at death for ho-

mosexual males is just 57 years

- compared with 75 years for

married men, and a gay man is

over than 20 times more like-

ly to commit suicide than oth-

Longevity of Homosexuals.

about the dangers of not wear-

ing seatbelts. We owe it to our

young people to at least tell

them about the risks of a ho-

mosexual lifestyle.

Hospital

Dr HUGH J THOMSON

Birmingham Heartlands

Edgbaston, Birmingham

We don't hesitate to broad-

Omega 1994].

facts are truly shocking.

Silence on schools

Sir: It is good to see an authoritative columnist like Donald Macintyre taking up a subject the private-state schism in our education (22 October) - which most politicians and commentators are too uncomprehending, too unimaginative, or too embarrassed by the contradiction between their championship of comprehensives and their choice of school for their own children to write about.

The education minister Stephen Byers recently said that the problem of our schools was not confined to a few underperformers: it was the mediocrity of the entire state system. While we have two distinct educational philosophies - one grimly egalitarian, the other competitive and aspiring -

mediocre it will remain. Critics of my own solution say that for the state to pay the costs of private schools in return for opening them to all the talents would be too expensive. I have never proposed this. Given the likelihood that the children of middle-class parents would continue to predominate, it would be unrealistic. Once accepted, pupils would pay fees on a sliding scale, just as their parents do for university main-

enance. In my book We Should Know

TV licence pests

Sir. Ms B S Purcell (letter, 23 October) protests at the activity of the TV Licensing Office.

We do not have a television. We have never had a television. We do not intend ever to have a television. Yet we still receive a letter every year from these disbelieving pests stating that their records show we do not have a TV licence.

Fed up after years of explanning why we don't have a TV licence. I simply binned the last letter. A little while later we received a further letter asking why we had not replied to the previous one. Next year, I'm going to bin all the letters and wait for someone to show up in person. G P DE CESARE Reading, Berkshire

In the pipeline

Sir: Nicholas Schoon reports poor", 18 October) that European environment ministers "agreed this week to enforce a Photograph: Tom Pilston much tougher standard for lead in drinking water". What they have done is reached a Common Position and this must then come back to the European Parliament for a second reading. Only after that is complete will the environment ministers be in

a position to agree anything. As Parliament's rapporteur and as chairman of the relevant committee. I am sure that we will look at their recommendations with great interest, but the argument is not yet over. KEN COLLINS MEP (Strathclyde E, Lab)

Freed prisoners

Sir. Dr John Wilkerson's comments (letter, 22 October) typify a misunderstanding about custodial sentencing. The recently released paedophile had received a sentence for manslaughter of 15 years. The length of sentence served was less the one-third remission, in accordance with the 1967 Criminal Justice Act. The principle of remission applies to all custodial sentences, regardless of whatever repugnance people may feel over particular offences.

The episode however, further emphasises the need for supervision and treatment of convicted paedophiles once they are returned to the community. IAN M HENDERSON.

Moment of creation

Rochester, Kent

ers [Cameron P et al. The Sir: Archbishop Ussher may well have provided the most procise date for the beginning of the world ("The world is 6,000 tocast the risks of drinking and day", 23 October). You should driving. We issue warnings however recognise the contribution of Dr John Lightfoot, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, who demonstrated even greater precision. In 1642 he stated that the world began on 23 October 4004BC "at nine o'clock in the morning". BARRY LOVEDAY

University of Ponsmouth

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

A great debate on the newsdesk floor on Monday, that Live TV proposed to evening when we were discussing using the hurt rabbit story on animal testing. Some colleagues found themselves physically unable to look at the picture and argued vehemently that it didn't pass the "cornflakes test" - meaning it was unacceptable over a breakfast table. Others, though, thought that if we were protesting about something, we had to show what the something was. I was of the latter view. Some of you were simply offended, but most of those who wrote in. even when they described the picture as horrible, thought we were right to use the power of shock. But the line between coarsening and informing is a thin one and easily crossed:

Andrew Marr in porn movie scandal? I have your attention at last. Private Eye certainly won mine, when a cheerily insinuating bloke from that organ phoned up to ask about my involvement in a sex film ... The proverbial icy hand

clutches at the heart. Was it one too many lagers that night some years ago which went all blurry? Anyway, it was all because

I'd given an interview to that not-very-high-ratings outfit, Live TV, on the ethics of the "sting" against Piers Merchant, the Tory MP caught with an, er, blushing damsel who had already betraved him with another paper. My argument was that the mixture of hypocrisy and deceit involved meant that his sex life was, in this case, relevant to his public position and Merchant had little case for successfully complaining about intrusion. The Independent wouldn't have used its resources chasing Mr Merchant and poor, "used" young Anna Cox as they tripped from tryst to tryst; but he is in a weak position to defend himself against a public interest defence.

What I hadn't realised was show the secret video-recording of the unlikely pair picture to accompany our enjoying "physical relations" - as we say here at The Indy - in the flat of a traitorous friend of Merchants, intercut with the interview. I watched the result with ashen-faced fascination. A profoundly unappetising sight it was too, like a huge mushroom wobbling frantically on ecstacy. (And that was only the duvet.) Anyway, so much for my one and only "porn film". The sight of Mr Merchant hopping around his bedroom must rank alongside out-of-date computer manuals and Noh theatre in the instant arousal

Last week I mentioned the London Evening Standard's images of human torture and launch of its very own business death, in particular, have to suit and asked what an Indebe used sparingly and rarely. pendent clothing item along the same lines would be. Among the responses was a photocopy of a moody, muscle-bound man wearing elegant underpants covered in little eagles and advertised as the "Indy Undy" - thank you, David McNickle. The notorious beard-wearer and trade unionist Keith Flett wrote in, suggesting "the fustian jackets that were worn by the Chartists in the 1840s ...

1990s-style fustian would, I

think, be a linen-type suit". But the prize for the most bizarre (printable) suggestion goes to G Langley from Bristol, who, after various disobliging speculations, suggests the following: "It should not be woolly, The Indie is never that, nor should it be silky, but fairly abrasive, and it should set up a low-level irritation. Mildly eccentric. but not really barking, with a touch of the unexpected, and qualitatively the best of its kind on the market. There is no escaping the inevitable conclusion - it has to be, it must be, genuine Harris Tweed Knickers." Place your orders now.

Andrew Marr

QUOTE UNQUOTE

There has always been sex in Coronation Street. Elsie Tanner used to walk around in a néglige - spokeswoman for the

It took thousands of years for humanity to discover that water is made up of molecules. Teachers can pass that information on to children in 10 seconds. Without teachers, society would slide back into squalor well before the next century was out - Ted Wragg, Professor of Education at Exeter University

When somebody offers you a gag and invites you to tie it across your own mouth, you have no honourable choice but to refuse - Ken Coates, MEP. suspended by Labour for refusing to sign a rule forbidding criticism of party policy

We should put the spin-doctors in spin clinics, where they can meet other spin patients and be treated by spin consultants. The rest of us can get on with the proper democratic process

Peter Lilley. There was nothing there. I don't think even he knows who he is. In fact, I doubt if Mrs Lilley knows who he is - Rory Bremner, impressionist, on the only politician who

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Hold the front page: the end is nigh ... or so it seemed



DAVID **AARONOVITCH** MARKET FAILURE

When I was younger I used to think that capitalism was the pits. For a start, there were the inequalities. My pocket money, for instance, was - at 11 - half what my richer friend Michael earned for performing exactly the same sort of small boy role. Our work was the same, our needs were identical, but our rewards were bugely different. And even between the two of us (at the micro level, if you like) this disparity caused social tension; so one could only imagine what happened when you multiplied this jealousy and defensiveness by all the people in the capitalist world.

Nor was that the end of it. Capitalism because it was essentially an exploitative and plundering kind of a system - also led to imperialism, and that entailed grinning colonial soldiers sporting the severed heads of freedom fighters from various parts of Asia and Africa

But almost more offensive than both of these characteristics was the fact that capitalism was irrational; that it just didn't make sense. For a start, it made things that nobody needed, just because the capitalist who made these things wanted a profit, and tried to convince the masses that they should buy his product. And, at the same time, this capricious system didn't make what society actually did need, leaving many homeless, destitute, hungry and poor.

It was little wonder that such a system teetered always on the brink of collapse. Being irrational and based on rapacity, its stock markets and financial institutions were bound to be vulnerable to speculators and profiteers. In 1929, on Wall Street, the whole shooting match had practically been destroyed, and Hitler was the price that capitalism had had to pay for its salvation. So - it was clear to me - capitalism was silly.

Now, in those days, there was an alternative, called socialism. Under socialism, things were much better organised, since production was geared for need, rather than (a neat rhyme) for greed. And socialism was not just an abstract concept, it actually existed in Russia (albeit in a slightly disreputable and embarrassing form), and more gloriously - in the hero states of Cuba

Then, of course, I wised up. Socialism (as practised almost anywhere) turned out not be that good, and capitalism - as regulated and mediated within the mixed economy - turned out not to be that bad. It helped that by now I was earning more than Michael, that the colonial struggle was pretty much over, and that the global market system had somehow escaped the stock-market crash and resulting slump that some of the more consistent revolutionary groups continued to predict.

And then - yesterday morning - I discovered that the capitalist system had just collapsed, More or less. Whhummp! Just like that, "World market near meltdown" said The Guardian on the left; "Shares dive in world crash fear", proclaimed The Telegraph on the right. The responsible and sober Financial Times spoke of "global shockwaves" in its headline.

The language used was enough to make blood turn to ice. Tumbled. Dived. Triggering fears. Turmoil. Biggest one-day fall. On the brink. Slump. Wiped off. Slide. Banker commits suicide. "Overnight," we were told, "the Hang Sen index tumbled". Overnight! While we were sleeping! While our children were lost in innocent slumber, unguarded, the great mad markets of the capitalist world destroyed their parents' pensions, decimated the endowment mortgage, and imperilled their granny's savings.

Think about it (I thought). What about that section of our family's policies - paid for over the years by painful sacrifice - that was invested in "Far East securities". Securities? Are you kidding? Down 10 per cent in one day, and more to follow. For securities read insecurities, for gilts read guilts. Oy, oy, oy.

And why is all this happening? Is it because half of Hong Kong has suddenly fallen into the sea, or demand for its staple product has unaccountably dried up, leaving it bankrupt? Have astronomers calculated that a meteorite the size of Kowloon is now heading our way with "Hong Kong" written on it? Perhaps it is linked to the recent revelations that the tiger economies of the Pacific Rim are nothing like as fabulous as some impressionable journalists have suggested (as exemplified by the killing smog from Indonesian forest fires choking up the streets of Kuala Lumpur, and ensuring that nobody can see that Malaysian capitalism has built the world's tallest building).

But it is none of these things. Thursday night's turmoil was not due to anything tangible, or even underlying. It wasn't a judgement on the lunacy of land management in South Asian countries, or a response to the US's failure this week to agree the pollution reduction targets necessary for dealing with global warming. Apparently it was all down to something called "asset bubbles" (which is not a cuphemism for farting in the bath. Or is it?) - and to testing Hong Kong's

So there we are. It transpires that the system is as daft and rotten as I thought it was when I was little, and that we are all about to go down the tubes.

Or rather, that was how it seemed when I began this article. Then, about an hour ago, I went to buy the London Evening Standard, so that I could trace the path of the coming slump. And there it is, in bold headlines: "London Faces Parking Blitz". At the bottom, ever so small, like a batsqueak, is a weeny headline on a teeny story. It reads: "Hong Kong recovery takes heat off

Beware the intolerant certainties of European liberals



TREVOR PHILLIPS ISLAMOPHOBIA IN BRITAIN

The problem with European liberals (small "l") is their intolerance. They will oppose, to the death, any kind of bigotry but their own. Their capacity to know what is best for others is unlimited, riding roughshod over the fact that people may not choose the same values as most Western Europeans. The famous Voltairean assertion of the right to free speech appears to be limited to precisely that a defence of a man or woman's right to say what he or she likes, as long as he or she does nothing about it; at that point, tolerance runs out. Such is the liberals' certainty that their own version of the world is right that they entertain no doubts at all about condemning others' traditions, even where adherence to those traditions is the free choice of nearly a billion people worldwide.

This week the civilised, "rationalist" version of liberalism swung into action against Islam. Some people, including Polly Toynbee in these pages, clothed it in an assault on all religious practice, but the issue here is the growth of Islam, and the critique is moving rapidly from being a defence of human rights to a disrespect for others' beliefs that verges on the racist.

The Runnymede Trust's report on Islamophobia this week has brought a welter of liberal indignation. As chair of the trust. I sat on the commission which drafted the report, along with 17 others, the majority of whom were not Muslims; about half professed no particular faith. As it happens, I spent much of my childhood in Guyana, where a substantial Muslim community lived and worked side by side with Jews and Christians, with no apparent difficulty; I now find it hard to remember which of my classmates was a Muslim and which a Hindu.

The crime of the Runnymede report, it seems, is to assert two facts and to advance two propositions. The first fact is that Islam is a fast-growing. heterogenous faith. People all over the world, including women, choose to adhere to this faith. In countries like Pakistan, the move from secular,

between ruler and ruled, at the

time of independence, that

there would be no investigation

of the colonial past, no Nurem-

burg trials, no Peace and Jus-

tice commissions, nothing that

would reflect adversely on a



military, domination towards democracy produced states which were more rather than less Islamist. We may take the view that some versions of Islamist life are illiberal; but when faced with the choice between democracy and liberalism, I'll take democracy. Otherwise, we might still be debating the merits of slavery; liberal opponents of abolition argued for decades that though slaves were human, they were really children who

might make the wrong choices

for themselves. The case against Islam rests heavily on the supposed experience of women. I instinctively find it hard to understand the apparently inferior position of women in many Islamist societies; however, the reality of life for many Muslims does not support the proposition that all, or even most, Muslim women feel oppressed because of their faith. Can one ignore the evidence of many independent, clearly self-possessed Muslim women who say that within their tradition, their status and their rights as women are protected? They also say they are appalled by what they see as the disrespect shown to women by non-Muslim societies.

The second fact was to point out that British Muslims often face discrimination because of their faith rather than their race. Once again, rather than bringing our own views to this question, we should listen to the experience of British Muslims.

It is indeed, difficult to separate colour prejudice from religious bigotry; however, when someone refuses you a job on the grounds that the firm can't have people going off to pray all the time, this is not racial discrimination.

The Runnymede team

made two major propositions.

First, that religious discrimination should be outlawed. Even if you do not accept others' right to profess a faith, it is a fact that the law, for the moment, allows Britons to do so. What, then, should we do where it is clear that the reason for people receiving inferior treatment is their faith? The report cites several episodes in which this is the case; yet to gain redress, the individuals concerned have to tell the courts that they believe that they were discriminated against because of their colour. Besides the fact that we would be asking people to lie to courts in order to gain justice, where does it leave the white convert, who cannot claim racial prejudice? We have laws in Northern Ireland which do precisely this job in protecting the rights of Catholics.

The second proposition made by the team was that state support for denominational schools should be made available to all denominations who can show that they are able to provide an acceptable level of educational achievement in the national curriculum. This is presently the case for most of Britain's major faiths. There is

no reasonable justification for denying the opportunity to those Muslim schools which can show competence and which already have waiting lists of hundreds. Yet the proposal is attacked on the ground that this would lead to separatism, and that it is almost impossible to define a religion. But you only need a prior definition if you

want the state to lay down which beliefs are acceptable and which are not. This is the contradiction at the heart of the rationalist liberal's critique. If you take the view that only certain religions should be state-supported, then what price religious freedom? If you say that no religious institutions should have state backing, you effectively im-But should the new Britain embrace diversity or not? The liberals cannot have it both ways. If they accept differences in our society, the more than one million British Muslims must be part of that diversity. If they don't accept -diversity,

the only way of being British is to accept the secular, rational, traditions of some parts of Western Europe; in short, to be "white" in our values, whatever our individual backgrounds.

Two days ago I had tea with a charming, civilised man, who for some 45 years has been a stalwart of our cultural life. His mission has, in some respects, been to bring the values of high art to the nation. In the middle of our conversation, he used the archaic phrase "the nigger in the woodpile". I could have let it pass - after all, the man is over 70; but that's how these things persist. So I tried to remonstrate, gently. For all the effect this had. I might have been talking Serbo-Croat or Twi. In his civilised, rational, libseem bizarre and ridiculously fussy. Like most people of his kind, he will never understand why other people don't share his values; but that's his problem. Liberal insensitivity must not be a reason for Britain to disrespect the feelings of many

Memories are made of this – exploitation, oppression, collaboration

The leaders of the Commonwealth do not like to dwell on the real story of the British Empire, but, says Richard Gatt, young historians in its member countries are busy ming back.

As the Commonwealth conference meets in Scotland today, I shall once again raise a metaphorical wine glass to the memory of the late Sean MacBride, one-time chief of staff of the IRA and the only socialist foreign minister that Ireland has ever had.

MacBride, in a brief moment of glory, had the wit and foresight to take Ireland out of the Commonwealth, a step only otherwise taken by Burma (and once briefly by Pakistan).

It has always seemed appropriate that Ireland and Burma, the two countries in the British Empire treated worse than any other, should have stood out so steadfastly against joining the old members' club. A handful of other forgotten countries once painted red on the map - Haiti, Indonesia, Iraq, Sudan, Egypt, Jordan. and Palestine - have also managed to remain missing from the Commonwealth line-up. They too suffered more than most from the excesses of British rule.

Many people in Britain, not least in the media, used to dismiss the Commonwealth as a tedious irrelevance. Yet the survival of this curious postimperial relic has not been without significance. For many years, it had a pernicious influence, in prolonging myths about the British Empire that gave a false impression of both British and imperial history. Now there are signs that things are changing. Faced with a choice be-

tween recalling the bloody or

the benign, most people have preferred to dwell on the positive aspects of empire. The British like to think of the massacre at Amritsar as the exception to the rule. Yet fresh examinations of the wider history of empire - much of it now going on in Commonwealth countries - reveals that the massacre was hardly an exception. To a new generation of historians, the entire imperial saga was a singularly bloody affair. To truly make amends, the British would have to apologise, not just for one or two incidents, but for the whole centuries-long experience.

Two conflicting and interwoven threads can be detected in the historical tapestry of the subject peoples of empire. One concerns those who welcomed imperial rule, supported it, reiished it, and collaborated with it. The other reflects those who opposed it, resisted its imposition, resented its alien ways, and took every opportunity to rebel.

The Commonwealth was

benign view of empire. The first generation of post-independence governments were happy to go along with this convenient forgetfulness. It was perhaps a necessary myth. Britain's empire was established and maintained for more than two centuries, through bloodshed, violence,

brutality, conquest, and war. The empire-builders, the govemors and administrators, were mostly military men. Large sections of the empire, for much of the time, were conducted under martial law. "Special" courts and courts martial were set up whenever trouble threatened, to mete out rough and speedy injustice. Calmer judicial procedures, evolved over time in Britain, were replaced in the empire by rule through terror. There were no free trade unions, no free press.

To defend its empire, to construct its rudimentary transport systems, and to man its plantation economies, the British used forced labour on a gigantic

the fruit of a tacit agreement scale. For the first half century of empire after the loss of the American colonies in the 18th century, labour power was provided by black slaves, transported from one continent to another. Indigenous manpower in many imperial states was dragooned into the imperial armies, or forcibly recruited into road gangs - building roads to assist the speedy repression of rebellion. When black slavery was abolished in the 1830s, the thirst for labour by the landowners of empire brought a new type of slavery into existence, dragging workers from India and China all over the world.

The subject peoples of empire did not go quietly into the long goodnight of history. Underneath the veneer of the official record there is a rather different story. Year in, year out, there was resistance to invasion, and rebellion against occupation. There were mutinies and revolts - by individuals, groups, armies, and entire peoples. At one time or another, the British conquest of distant lands was hindered, halted, and even derailed by the vehemence of

the local opposition. None of this has been, during the 50-year post-colonial period since 1947, the generally accepted view of empire. As dis-

tance lends enchantment to the view, there has been a tendency, particularly in Britain but also in some of the governments of the Commonwealth, to view the imperial experience through the rosetinted spectacles of heritage culture. Yet this benign, biscuit-tin, view of the past is no longer the understanding of their history that younger people in the Commonwealth would now recognise. A myriad revisionist historians have been at work in each individual territory, producing fresh evidence about the horrors of the colonial experience. They have been recovering tales of rebellion and repression that make nonsense of the accepted imperial version

of what happened. The work of these historians has been slowly percolating through to governments. Nigerians are asking: what right does Britain have to talk about human rights? Mauritius is enquiring about the forcible removal of the inhabitants of Diego Garcia - in living memory. Zimbabwe is asking for compensation for the land seized in the 1890s. The British may yet regret that they once found the Commonwealth boring. It shows every sign of

wanting to bite back.



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Marian Pepler, rug designer, interior designer and architect: born Sanderstead. Surrey 24 August 1904; married first Eden Minns (marriage dissolved), second 1933 Richard Drew ("Dick") Russell (died 1981; two sons, one daughter); died Eynsham, Oxfordshire 13 October 1997.

Marian Pepler's understated work as a rug designer in the 1930s is in sharp contrast to that of her more flambovant contemporaries. This was as she wanted. Her rugs were not meant to draw attention to themselves as separate works of art, nor to dominate a room, but rather to complete the harmony of their setting. They are distinguished precisely because they are self-effacing and quiet.

It is perhaps the sole pleasure of an obituary writer to be able to override the habitual reserve of one's subject. Even at the time of the Geffrye Museum's 1983 joint exhibition of Pepler's work with that of her husband, the furniture designer R. D. Russell, she was adamant that hers was insignificant compared to his. While, in quantity it may be slighter, because she was bringing up children and running a home, in quality it matches it utterly.

Marian Pepler came from a liberal professional background which gave her a feel for landscape and setting. Her father, Sir George Pepler, was an architect concerned with housing reform, later a noted town planner: her uncle Douglas (Hilary) Pepler was the founder of the Ditchling Press. She entered the Architectural Association Schools, only open to women since 1917, in 1924, and qualified as an architect in 1929. Here she was, like her fellow student Dick Russell, particularly inspired by the Danish visiting tutor Steen Eiler Rasmussen, who encouraged the

students not to forget their country's own traditions in their enthusiasm for International Modern, but to give their work humanity and warmth by combining industrial techniques with vernacular.

Dick Russell, who had even before coming up to the AA formed with his brother Gordon the Broadway furnituremaking firm that would become Gordon Russell Ltd, and who intended on his return to merge contemporary modern design with the firm's traditional ways, seemed to exemplify the Rasmussen ideal. Pepler and he were married in 1933.

Rasmussen's influence also shows in Pepler's only architectural design, a collaboration with Russell, Lobden, of 1932. This house in the Malverns combined a flat roof and Crittall metal-framed windows with a brick construction because. said Pepler, "a local builder would not have been used to using concrete".

Meanwhile, Gordon Russell Ltd was receiving a growing number of commissions for the furnishing of entire homes and offices, and Dick Russell, as head of the Drawing Office, saw clearly the need for rugs which would reflect the combination of rich materials and austere design that was their new style. Pepler took a short hand-weaving course at the London School of Weaving, so she could design in a way that would be clear to the maker, and then from 1930 began to sell to Gordon Russell Ltd.

Her rugs became a vital part of the firm's reputation for intelligent design. Arising purely from the nature of weaving itself, they were simple, arithmetical and linear. The bumanity came from the handknotting, the texture, and particularly the colour, with which she took the greatest care, describing it as more than half the design.

She took care too that her room. Most of this work was un-

rugs be affordable; in general they retailed for under £10. Wilton Royal, who made Pepler's hand-knotted rugs, kept costs down by restricting the size to a 3ft 6in rug off a 4ft 6in loom. Pepler typically relished such restrictions, commenting that 3ft 6in was just the size of most people's fireplaces. Her flat-woven rugs were made by the Carlisle firm of Alexander Morton, while for larger rugs and carpets she went to Tomkinsons of Kidderminster, whose Smyrna loom mechanically simulated the process of hand-knotting. After their marriage, Russell was made the firm's London director, and Pepler, now on the salaried staff, took charge of the displays both in the Wigmore

Street showroom and in

Broadway, transforming them

into room settings. Shortly af-

terwards she became the firm's

fabric buyer and then buyer of

all factored goods, bringing in

by a man who had introduced

himself to Gordon Russell

with a letter expressing admi-

ration for one of her carpets -

At the beginning of 1936

Gordon Russell gave Pepler a

consultancy supervising the

firm's decorative schemes. She

continued to make designs:

there were over 70 in eight

years. Her last main commis-

sion of the Thirties was five rugs

for Maxwell Fry's Miramonte,

an International Modern house

After the Second World

War, now the senior person in

her field, she became an active

Fellow of the Society for In-

dustrial Artists. She made few

ventures into rug design, but de-

voted herself almost exclusive-

ly to carpets, subtly using

all-over repeats to tie together

the decorative elements of a

in Kingston upon Thames.

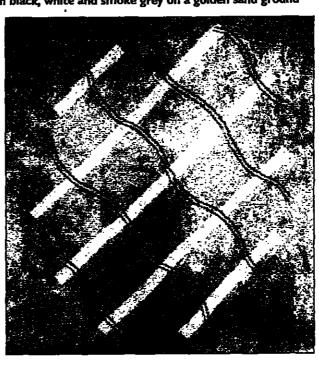
Nikolaus Pevsner.

the work of the best contemporary designers, while continually trying to keep prices Pepler and Russell in the 1940s; and, below, Beach, 1933/4, a rug designed by Pepler and low. She was succeeded in 1935 made by Alexander Morton in black, white and smoke grey on a golden sand ground

> dertaken for her husband's practice, R.D. Russell and Partners, to which she was also colour consultant. Important projects included the Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, in London, 1954-61, the Oriana passenger ship, 1954-59, study bedrooms for Essex University, 1965, and hotel bedrooms for the Lygon Arms, Broadway, 1960-68. Dick Russell died in 1981.

> and Marian Pepler spent the last years of a long and happy life sharing a house with her son Daniel and his family near Oxford, designing cushions now, painting, and creating a delightful small garden. Her taste and distinction shone out in all she did. For Pevsner her work had "a sensitivity and a quiet perfection not surpassed anywhere in Europe".

– Kedrun Laurie



Donald Horobin

Donald Horobin, journalist: born Wolverhampton 7 July 1921; News Editor, ITN 1961-72, Assistant Editor 1972-77, Deputy Editor (977-84; married 1945 Denise White (three sons, one daughter); died Parbrook, Somerset 14 October 1997.

Every organisation has its archetypal figures. ITN had Donald Horobin. For two and a half decades, through the birth of News at Ten in 1967, Horobin was in overall charge of ITN's news desk. No single person can claim credit for the success of an enterprise as labour intensive as a news programme; but as much as any other factor, it was the presence of Horobin. the classical hard-news man par excellence, that made the nation come to rely on News at Ten as its biggest single prime source of information.

Horobin was born in 1921. the son of an iron-founder who went bust in the Depression. He was educated at St Chad's College, Wolverhampton, and served in the Second World War on minesweepers. He had settled down to a career on the Birmingham Gazette and Despatch when, in 1960, Sir Geoffrey Cox, ITN's Editor, invited him for an interview. Horobin had no television experience. But, sensing the steely qualities to which he had been alerted. Cox hired him on the spot.

Those who worked with Horobin regarded him with a mixture of awe and affection. Alerted to a news story he brought to mind a terrier advised of the presence of a rat: the gimlet eyes narrowed, the jaw clamped and the nose quivered as though tuning in to unseen newsgathering forces. His grasp of logistics was uncanny.

In 1980 during the storming of the Iranian embassy in London by SAS commandoes, to end a six-day occupation by terrorists, it was Horobin who oversaw ITN's camera placing. which produced a famous long. prize-winning newsflash. After the blow-out of an oil-rig in the North Sea it was Horobin who masterminded the airlifting of film by helicopter from a rocking boat to get it back to London ahead of the BBC.

It was Horobin's urgent iron whisper that would come down the telephone in the middle of the night anywhere in the world into the ear of reporters or cameramen, already stretched to what they had imagined was their limit, to propose what



would seem some preposterous initiative. But it would be Horobin who had organised the back-up to get the material home, and Horobin who would confront the Editor to demand the funds to make it possible. in tones which made refusal seem like treason.

Debate about how to fill extra time when the evening news was extended to half an hour split ITN into factions, the hard-news school holding that viewers wanted more of the same, others wanting the extra time for more depth and analysis of existing news. Horobin's notion was to generate cheerful stories to offset the gloom of the rest of the news. The accent was to be on achievement. Accordingly explorers of

every kind were issued with clockwork cameras carrying 90-second reels of silent film and given rudimentary lessons in how to operate them. ITN cameras were despatched up Everest and Annapurua, on a trek across the Arctic, in rowing boats across the Atlantic. The results included pictures of the wilder parts of the globe not seen before on television, the crackle of voices on radio telephone somewhere in the South Pacific, weather-beaten faces framed in sou westers staring at a cumera lashed to the mast of a yacht rounding the Horn.

The Annapurna expedition in 1970 was led by Chris Bonington and an ITN crew. Viewers followed the climb on News at Ten, including footage of a triumphant Don Whillans reaching the summit. What they did not see was the work behind the scenes to organise 30 porters taking 45 cases of equipment to base camp at 14,000 feet, and the relay of six runners carrying out the total of 65,000 feet of film. That was down to Horobin and his team.

Less triumphant, though no less memorable, was Horol s Loch Ness project. In summer 1971, Horobin decided that it was time to settle once and for all the mystery of the Loch Ness monster. He hurled himself and ITN's resources - into the task. His land forces were a 10man team led by himself, with a buttery of lightweight cameras. His water-borne equipment consisted of a torpedo-recovering submarine with grab gear and headlights, and a chartered tug equipped with sonar sensing device, For 10 days they swep the loch with sonar and plung into the inky waters. News Ten's pictures were syndicated all over the world (they still sell to this day) and Loch Ness fever spread as far afield as Japan. An American enthusiast shipped in a yellow submarine and nearly drowned in it.

By the end of the expedition only parts of a Spittire engine and what appeared to be some ancient muskets had been located. Unrepentant, Horobin brought the venture to a close with a press announcement that News at Ten had now clusively established as a had torical fact that the Loch Ness monster did not exist.

Millard Lampell

Millard Lampell, screenwriter, lyricist, singer, novelist and playwright: born 10 January 1919; died Ashburn, Virginia 3

In 1966 Millard Lampell reached the climax of his writing career when he received an Emmy award for the television play Eagle in a Cage. As his play dealt with Napoleon's exile on St Helena, he eschewed the usual flowery "thank you" speech, and merely said: "Everybody ought to know that I was blacklisted for 10 years."

In 1948, when Henry Wallace was nominated as Presidential candidate for the Progressive Party, Lampell and his friend Allan E. Sloane had collaborated on Wallace's acceptance speech. Six years later, Sloane named his friend to Hy Kraft once observed that naming a friend was acceptable, but naming an enemy was considered bad taste.)

"There was no way of getting proof that I was actually on a list," wrote Lampell in 1966. "My income simply dropped from a comfortable five figures to \$2,000 a year." One day he bumped into a television producer who was sufficiently drunk to tell him, "Pal, you're dead. I submitted your name for a show, and they told me I couldn't touch you with a bargepole ... Don't quote me. pal, because I'll deny I said it."

Lampell spent the 1950s working on the "black market". writing scripts under pseudonyms at reduced fees to sub-

TODAY: Ex-King Michael of Ro-

mania, 76; Sir Robert Andrew. for-

sidise his novels and plays. the House Committee on Un- One of his plays, The Wall, American Activities as a Com- based on John Hersey's novel munist. (The blacklisted writer about the destruction of the Warsaw ghetto, was produced on Broadway starring George C. Scott in 1960. That same year Kirk Douglas and Otto Pre-

minger challenged the witchhunters by openly crediting the blacklisted Dalton Trumbo with the screenplays of their respective films Spartacus and Exodus. Within months, Paramount followed suit and credited Lampell and his fellow blacklistee Ben Barzman with their screenplay of Chance Meeting (released in Britain as Blind Date), an English-made film directed by another "Un-American", Joseph Losey.

While studying at the University of West Virginia, the young Lampell became interested in folk music. In 1940 he,

Lee Hays and Pete Seeger done; / How they came across formed the folk group the Al- the sea / To sunny Italy, / And manac Singers. In 1941, Woody Guthrie joined them, but the Seeger and Guthrie entered the armed forces.

By this time Lampell was writing such radio series as the patriotic Green Valley. USA. For the writer-director Norman Corwin's On a Note of Triumph, a one-hour broadcast celebrating V-E Day, he wrote the song "Round and Round Hitler's Grave" in collaboration with Corwin, Guthrie and Seeger. With the composer Earl Robinson, he wrote the songs for Corwin's Lonesome Train, an award-winning radio cantata about the death of Abraham Lincoln.

"Let them sing of the men of a fighting platoon, / Let them sing of the job they have

took a little walk in the sun." With Robinson, Lampell wrote the ballads heard on the soundtrack of Lewis Milestone's impressively unsentimental war film A Walk in the Sun (1946), the simple story of an American platoon's capture of a small farmhouse held by Germans. With Sidney Buchman he wrote the screenplay (based on Lam-

pell's own novel) for Saturday's Hero (1951), an unusually outspoken film about the abuses of big-time college athletics. include Escape from East Berlin (1962), based on the true story of 28 East Berliners who tunnelled under the wall, the

Lampell's film credits also English-made Jenniser Jones vehicle The Idol (1966) and Triumph of the Spirit (1989), the true story of a boxer, a prison-

er in Auschwitz, who is forced to stage bouts in the camp. For television. Lampell wrote the Writers Guild Award-winning The Ornhan Train, a threehour drama about the first train to transport street orphans from New York to the Midwest in the 1850s. He also scripted such series as Rich Man. Poor Man and The Adams Chronicles.

According to A Journal of the Plague Years, Stefan Kanfer's invaluable 1973 book about the Blacklist era, Lampell was writing a screenplay under a pseudonym when the film's producers needed script changes and demanded the presence of their non-existent writer. Kanfer writes: "They were informed that he was vacationing in France. They settled, instead, for a cheap, fast blacklistee: Millard Lampell." - Dick Vosburgh

Horobin: gimlet eyes

BIRTHS. **MARRIAGES**

& DEATHS

DEATHS

LIM: Cheng Kim. On 23 October 1997, at Edenhall Marie Curic Cen-tre, dearly loved wife and mother of William Turnbull and their sons Alex MOTESICZKY: Marie-Louise de Motesiczky (24 October 1906-10 June 1996). There will be a cere-

mony to deposit the functary um of Miss Mante-Louise von Motesiczky in the Motesiczky family tomb at the Doeblinger Friedhof. Hartácker-strasse 65. at 10.30am on Tuesday 28. October 1997. Marie-Louise will be laid to rest beside her mother and fa-ther, and her brother Kail. On behalf of the family a memorial speech will be delivered by Mr Richard Karplus, of Houston, Texas, and there will be an address by Dr Gerbert Frodl, Director of the Austrian Gallery, Belvedere. Marie-Louise is remem-bered with joy in the memory of all who knew her. She survives in her art. STEPHEN: Susannah Alice (Zan-nah). Missing, believed drowned in the Galapagos Islands on Sunday 12 October 1997. Dearly loved daugh-ter of Sandy and Sue, sister of Gra-ham and the late Sachu, sister-in-law of five and punt of Jessics. Figure and of Trix and aunt of Jessica, Fiona and Melanie. A Thanksgiving Service for her life will be held in the Balfron Parish Church at 11.30am on Satur-

day 29 November.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

mer senior civil servant, 69; Mr

Birthdays

Henry Commager, historian, 95; Miss Juliet Fisher, dancer and teacher of contemporary dance, 56; Mr Martin Gilbert, historian, 61; Mr Steve Hodge, footballer, 35; Mr Michael Lawrence, former chief executive. London Stock Exchange, 54: Mr Michael Lynagh, rugby player, 34: Sir David Mansel Lewis, Lordieutenant of Dyfed, 70: Sir John Mayhew-Sanders, business consul-tant 66; Mr Joe Mercer, former jockey, 63; Miss Helen Reddy, singer, 55; Sir George Russell, Chairman, In-dependent Television Commission, 61: Mr Alan Smith, former chief executive, Test and County Cricket Board, 61; Mr Keith Taylor, chairman and chief executive, Esso UK, 59; Miss Galina Vishnevskaya, soprano. 71; Dame Gillian Wagner, former chairman of organisations for children's care, 70; Professor Donald Wiseman, Assyriologist, 79. TOMORROW: The Viscount of Arbuthnott, Lord-Lieutenant of Grampian Region (Kincardineshire), 73: Mr John Arden, playwright, 67; Mr Kevin Barron MP. 51; Mr Ian Chapman, publisher. 72; Sir Percy Cradock, former Prime Minister's adviser on Foreign Affairs, 74; Mr Paul Daneman, actor, 72; Mr Bob Edwards, former deputy chairman. Mirror Group, 72: Mr Edward Gar-

nier MP, 45: Professor Robert Hinde,

former Master of St John's College, Cambridge, 74; Mr Bob Hoskins, actor, 55; Sir Clifford Inniss. former Judge of Appeal, Belize, 87; Mr Peter Joslin, Chief Constable, War-wickshire. 64: Professor Arthur Lucas, Principal. King's College London, 56; Sir Donald MacDougall, economist, 85; Lord Molloy, former MP. 79; Mr Gyorgy Pauk, concert vi-olinist, 61; Lord Scanlon, former trade union leader, 84: Miss Jaclyn Smith, actress, 49; Mr Shaun Wood-ward MP, 39; Sir Michael Wright, High Court judge, 65: Lord Wylie QC, a former Senator of the Scottish College of Justice, 74.

Anniversaries

TODAY: Births: Thomas Babington Macaulay, Baron Macaulay, histori an and essayist, 1800. Deaths: Geoffrey Chaucer, poet, 1400. On this day: the Charge of the Light Brigade took place. 1854. Today is the Feast Day of Saints Chrysanthus and Daria, Saints Crispin and Crispinian, The Forty Martyrs of England and Wales, Saints Fronto and George, St Gaudentius of Brescia and St Richand Gwyn. TOMORROW: Births: Giuseppe Domenico Scarlatti, com-poser and harpsichordist, 1685. Deaths: Alfred the Great, King of England, 899. On this day: the Gunfight at the OK Corral took place, 1881. Tomorrow is the Feast Day of St Bean, St Cedd, St Eata, Saints Lucian and Marcian and St Rusticus of Narbonne

FAITH & REASON

Something odd lurking amid the frescoes

True conviction seems as unfashionable as martyrdom in church circles today. But is the compassion and tolerance which has replaced them an adequate compensation? asks Margaret Atkins.

Late in the 16th century a series of frescoes was painted in the chapel of the English College in Rome. It represented the history of English Christianity as a history of England's martyrs; and it concluded with Ralph Sherwin, a member of the college, who had recently been executed in London. The college students, who were training to return to the Catholic Mission in England, meditated daily on their predecessors' deaths, to fortify themselves when their own time came.

I first saw the frescoes in the company of a senior Anglican churchman. who typified the cultured gentleness of his breed. Our conversation flowed with the easy familiarity of ecumenism. Yet the pictures silenced us; and placed a bleak question-mark between us. How could our respective ancestors have inflicted, and suffered, this? More disturbingly still: were the willingness to quered career in an Austrian gaol. make disciples of all nations". Once tol-

kill, and to die, two sides of a single. Hubmaier summoned an old schoolcoin? Sherwin's generation seemed pitiless indeed: but does our own lack all heroic conviction?

Today is the Catholic feast day of "the 40 martyrs of England and Wales" among whom Ralph Sherwin numbers. It is a group which is striking in its sheer variety. John Houghton had been living in austere contemplation before the events of the world shattered his Carthusian silence. Philip Howard, the youthful Earl of Arundel, was rich, intelligent and a favourite of the Queen Anne Line had been left destitute by widowhood, a kindly and discreet woman, who suffered poor health as she kept house for persecuted priests. Margaret Clitherow, a butcher's wife, defied fines and imprisonment to harbour priests and organise schooling for the Catholics of York, while her Protestant husband, though tolerant, gazed with incomprehension at her zeal for martyrdom. Others were scholars. The martyrs were united only in their un-

flinching refusal to betray their beliefs. Contemporary Protestants were also committed passionately to truth. Take Bulthasar Hubmaier, a Swiss Anabaptist, who spent the last weeks of a che-

friend, now a Catholic bishop, and they discussed theology together long into the nights. On several points Hubmaier came to accept the Catholic arguments; but he stood firm on baptism and the eucharist, and was burnt.

Can we, here and now, imagine debating ultimate truths with such uncompromising seriousness? Perhaps we lack not so much our predecessors' courage as their dogged intellectual honesty. These men and women might be persuaded by careful arguments. who had in his grasp a brilliant career. but they would not he bullied into believing what was convenient.

Their refusal to compromise fright. ens us, as it frightened Margaret Clitherow's husband. For our own characteristic virtue is tolerance, and Christians too now place compassion ahead of conviction. We remember the gentleness of Jesus, his summons to love our enemies, his refusal to meet violence with violence. We remember the virtues that the persecutors forgot.

But do we neglect the virtues that the martyrs remembered? For Christ died not because he was compassionate, but because he witnessed unflinchingly to the truth of God. He commissioned his followers also to bear witness to

crance slides into indifference, into neglecting to seek and share the truth, then it ceases to be a Christian virtue.

This is a hard saying in an age of pluralism. It is easier to pretend that we love one another by letting each other. helieve whatever we like. But surely individuals and societies will flourish if their lives are based on truths, and not on lies. If so, it is our duty, individually and collectively, to help one another to find truth. The search for truth is more complex now: we have, for example, other religions with which to debate. But we can only take others seriously if we are prepared both to learn and to teach: to explore with patience and humility where and how we agree and disagree, exactly where and how each is muddled or perceptive.

It is a risky business to live by any serious view of the world. To embrace one conviction is to rule out an infinity of others. But in the end we must choose, if only by refusing to think about what we believe and why; if we do that, we will be choosing by default. Then we will simply fall for the soft and selfish hedonism peddled by the myth-makers and the money-makers of our society. Theirs is not a creed worth dying for. The martyrs offer a challenge: are the truths that we assume worth even living for?

لكذا من ألاصل

Eager Footsie demonstrates the classic dead cat bounce

MARKET REPORT



DEREK PAIN STOCK MARKET REPORTER OF THE YEAR

In early trading it looked as if vance of the Hong Kong up- ing group ended 19.5p off at Gordon likes the shares, draw- This year's estimate remains at shares touched 100p in February Vance Va the Hong Kong typhoon had completely blown itself out. An overnight rally in the former colony had Footsie prancing 111 points higher with Thursday's tension forgotten.

But the revival was greatly exaggerated, a classic dead cat bounce. By the close the in-4,970.2.

. Once again conditions many traders. were volatile with order-driven trading prompting some quick and exceedingly sharp price and small, prepared to sit on the sidelines.

There were hopes New something of a steadying influence on Thursday and given the impression it was from a 17p gain to a 1p fall and once part of ICl, was little already dismissing the rele- the Standard Chartered bank-

heaval.

Footsie has fallen 200 points this week with the Govthen, an auspicious introduction for the new order which seems to have avoided any dex was nursing a 21.3 fall at technical problems but has yet to win the devotion of

the major casualties of the Far unidentified US group touted Eastern bloodbath attempted movements. Yet volume was recoveries. The savagely thin with many investors, big mauled HSBC at one time rallied 120p to 1,730p with Lehman Brothers cutting its target price to 2,000p, de-York would turn in a rip-roar- scribing the shares as a longing display. It had provided term buy. They closed just 2p higher at 1,612p.

Cable & Wireless went

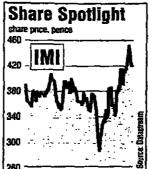
670p.
The scars of the week's falls were evident among the forernment's discomfort over mer building societies with price of 525p is suggested. ERM as well as Hong Kong Halifax up 1p at 685p, comdoing the damage. Hardly, then, an auspicious introduc-peak, and Woolwich at 297p (4p) against a high of 334p.

Stories of bid action at Hanson, the remnant of the old and feared Hanson conglomerate, resurfaced with Not surprisingly some of Minorco and an as-yetas the likely predator. The shares of what is now a building materials group rose 10p to 322p in brisk turnover.

Imperial Chemical Industries managed a 10p gain to 941p following third-quarter figures; SBC Warburg believes the shares will hit 1,100p in the next year. IMI, the engineer

ing attention to a drink dispenser plant in China as part of its tie-up with Coca-Cola. A

A Nat West Securities downgrade trimmed Rio Tinto, the resources group, 2p to 856p. The investment house lowered next year's estimates from £970m to £920m and 1999 from £1.08bn to £1.04bn.



£835m.

De La Rue, the security printer which recently took analysts to see its French operations, put on 20p to 436p with rumours of Cazenove support. The shares were 662.5p

early this year. Leicester City was the latest football club to score an own goal on its debut. The on the rest of the capital. shares closed at 93.5p against an effective new issue price of 110p in the reverse takeover deal with the Soccer Investments shell.

Utilitec gained 8p to 44.5p on talk of an upbeat trading statement next week. The company, formerly called Cruden Bay, has had a torrid time; in August it produced

BTG, with an array of developments, hardened 9p to 696.5p on suggestions a bullish circular is being prepared.

United Energy, where there is once again talk of bid action, firmed to 17p. It has increased its stake in Agrigen to 70 per cent and has an option Agrigen is developing a power station, fired by poultry litter. Based at Nunn Mills, Northampton, it has a Government-backed contract to

supply electricity. American Port Services held at 200.5p. Stockbroker Greig Middleton is looking for profits to advance £2.8m to £9.3m this year with £11.4m pencilled heavier-than-expected losses. in for next. The shares are at a At one time an obscure in- peak with the arrival of Jacobs, vestment trust it embarked on the aggressive transport group, with 5.5 per cent.

TAKING STOCK

Emerald Energy is thought to be on the verge of extending its South American operations. The company, already involved in promising oil exploration work in Colombia. is venturing into Argentina; it hopes to explore a 10,000kilometre block in what is thought to be an oil-bearing area. The shares rose 0.25p to 5.25p. The oil minnow has attracted some beavyweight support. Its shareholders include Mercury Asset Management, which recently lifted its stake to 10.62 per cent.

Grafton, an Irish builders merchant, has increased its stake in British Dredging to 29.97 per cent, paying £1.3m for 882,000 shares. In the past year the Irish group has acquired a Newbury builders merchant for £2.6m. British Dredging shares held at 146p, near their 12-month

already o	ismissing the rele- the Standard Chartered bank- chang	ged at 419p. Panmure 260 NDJFMAMJJASO ac	company buying spree. Its with 5.5 per cent. high.	
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of their stocks on a monitor in a street in Hong Kong. Following a brief initial drop, the market rebounded in early trading

Hong Kong surges but London and Wall St hit by jitters

Investors face a nervous weekend after stock markets in London and New York failed to pick up on renewed optimism in Hong Kong, where shares rose sharply after Thursday's slump.

Tom Stevenson, Diane Coyle and Stephen Vines track the continuing financial crisis.

The roller-coaster ride on the world's stock markets continued vesterday after Hong Kong enjoyed its second-biggest rise of the year but London and New York failed to hold on to early recoveries. Volatile trading on Wall Street last night set the stage for another jittery week and no-one was prepared to call the end of the worst stock market crisis in 10 years.

points lower at 4,970.2 after nervous trading in New York undermined the early benefit of a 700-point rise in Hong Kong. The index of British blue-chip

late morning, a rise of 111 points, as investors watched with relief the recovery in the Far East. As eyes turned West, however, the mood darkened.

The Dow Jones index in New York rose 92 points within 10 minutes of opening but sentiment rapidly turned and within two-and-a-half hours shares had swung through more than 200 points to notch up a 1 per cent decline. Parallels were immediately

drawn with the week leading up to the stock market crash in October 1987 when a run of daily declines preceded the big collapse on Black Monday. On the Friday before the crash 10 years ago, a late fail on Wall Street left traders waiting anxiously over the weekend for the bloodbath on Monday.

The mood at the weekend

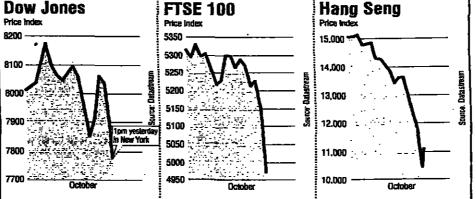
will also be influenced by speculation about a special statement due to be made to the House of Commons on Monleading shares closed 21.3 day by Gordon Brown, the Chancellor. The Treasury confirmed he would set out the Government's policy on the single currency. It said the Chancellor was "acting decishares had been over 5,100 in sively to stop speculation by Paris, shares closed 7.84 points

making the statement to Parliament at the earliest possible opportunity".

The stock market turbulence was reflected by the pound which bounced before closing slightly higher at just under DM2.90. The week began with a sharp rise in sterling due to uncertainty sown by an interview Mr Brown gave last weekend. It was only later in the week that the markets' attention switched to shares.

The FTSE 100 index has fallen by almost 6 per cent since Monday from 5,271.1, about one-third of the 18 per cent fall in Hong Kong over the past five trading days. It was an inauspicious first week's trading for the Stock Exchange's new automated order-driven trading system, Sets, which received widespread criticism during the week for exacerbating the market's volatility.

European bourses were also atile, with the German DAX index, which reflects all-day computer trading, ending 5.06 points higher at 3,981.44, below the psychologically important 4,000-point level and way off its earlier peak of 4,066.27. In



lower at 2,849.03, after sliding 101.19 points on Thursday. The index had traded as high as 2,900.81 yesterday ahead of the New York opening.

Wall Street rebounded briefly before the fall in share prices resumed. The Dow Jones index gained as much as 89 points in early trading but then plunged lower. It was down 120 points down at 7,727 by midday. The drop was led by tech-

nology stocks such as Texas Instruments and Motorola. The prospect of a speech by Alan Greenspan was also blamed for the nervousness. Although the Fed Chairman was expected to steer clear of any comment on the stock market, he recently caused an upset by describing the pace of Wall Street's gains as "unsustainable".

Despite the gloom, one notview that share prices in the US will continue to climb. Abby Joseph Cohen, Wall Street guru at Goldman Sachs, said: "We continue to expect the US equity market to rise in price." The Hong Kong stock mar-

right down to 6 per cent.

ket gave a whole new meaning to volatility yesterday. Having registered its biggest points fall on Thursday, the market saw its second-biggest rise of the year as bargain hunters sent the Hang Seng index up 718 points. a gain of almost 7 per cent.

Analysts were divided on whether the bounce meant the meltdown of Hong Kong stocks was over. Despite yesterday's rise, the Hang Seng index ended the week 18 per cent down.

The immediate cause of the big market decline did recede, though, as the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) acted to dispel the fear that the fixed link between the Hong Kong and US dollar would be broken, followed by a devaluation. The HKMA, which loss in a decade with a drop of forced overnight inter-bank 5.4 per cent. Australia was the rates up as high as 300 per cent next to fall, followed by Taiwan, last week, was confident Singapore, Malaysia and Thaienough yesterday to do an about face and plunge the rate

Renewed confidence in the reason for yesterday's stock up just below 1 per cent. market rise but it was also

heavily influenced by market ru-

mours that some HK\$1bn (£79m) of mainland Chinese money was floating around the market giving support. The circumstantial evidence for this rumour was seen in the almost 13 per cent rise in the index tracking red-chip shares, belonging to China-associated companies.

The rise in red chips almost doubled the general rise in the market. Larry Yeung, the chairman of Citic Pacific, Hong Kong's biggest red chip, made no secret of the fact his company was huying its own shares in the market.

The rise in Hong Kong brought little comfort to other markets in the region. New Zealand suffered its biggest land. Shares in Bangkok declined by 3 per cent. Only the Nikkei 225 in Japan managed a 1.2 per cent rise and the local currency was the major Philippines stock market edged

Outlook, page 25

BLUFF YOUR WAY THROUGH THE CRISIS

gloomy view of yesterday's early rebound. A sharp rise in prices after a severe fall, often caused by short-sellers buying shares at a profit.

SHORT SELLERS: Dealers who sell shares they don't own in anticipation of a fall. If the price goes down they can buy the shares more cheaply to match their obligation, and keep the difference.

BEAR SQUEEZE: What happens to short sellers when the market or share goes up. They have to buy at the higher price to honour their commitment to sell. Ouch.

FALL OUT OF BED: What happened on Thursday.

FLIGHT TO QUALITY: Falling out of bed is usually exacerbated by investors dumping their shares for safer bonds. Both gilts and

DEAD CAT BOUNCE: The US Treasury bonds rose on Thursday.

> ON THE SIDELINES: A state of dithering that afflicts investors worried about falling out of bed, but not yet in the blind panic associated with a flight to quality.

CORRECTION: The crash of 1987 was actually a correction because the market almost immediately resumed its upward trend. The optimistic view of a crash.

BEAR MARKET: What happens when things go really pear-shaped. Between 1972 and 1974 the London stock market lost 70 per cent of its value. If the same happened today, the FTSE 100 ndex would fall to 1.500.

CIRCUIT BREAKERS: Measures to ensure that trading is halted if the market falls by a given amount.

Buoyant economy points to rate rise

The economy is showing no sign of having slowed down in the third quarter, and export volumes are rising as fast as ever despite the strong pound. Analysts yesterday concluded from the latest figures that it is only a matter of time before the Bank raises interest rates, as Diane Coyle, Economics Editor, reports.

The latest evidence on the temperature of the economy, the crucial figure for GDP growth in the July to September quarter, revealed the pace of growth to be feverish still.

"A rate rise in November remains a distinct possibility,"

said Richard Iley, an economist at ABN-Amro. Others thought the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee might wait until December, but saw it as no more than a question of timing.

The economy grew by 1 per cent last quarter, taking GDP to a level 3.9 per cent higher than a year earlier, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) said yesterday. The preliminary figures

showed the service industries still expanding fast, although at a slower rate than the previous few quarters. Manufacturing made up for this modest slowdown, growing "quite strongly" according to the ONS, while oil and gas extraction and energy supply showed robust increases.

The broad pattern of growth remained unchanged last quarter, with services expanding much faster than industry, and business and financial services and communications leading the service sector.

In the 22 consecutive quarters of growth since the first quarter of 1992, the trough of the recession, service sector output has climbed 21 per cent. Industrial production, meanwhile, has risen by 14.5 per cent.

A key reason for the economy's failure to slow down this year despite higher borrowing costs has been the resilience of exports. Britain's trade gap continued to narrow in August, as export growth continued to defy the overvalued exchange rate. The gap between exports

and imports fell to £513m from £649m in July. Underlying growth in export volumes was 4.5 per cent in the three months to August compared to 3.5 per cent for imports. Partial figures showing trade

with countries outside the Eu-

ropean Union in September offered a hint of an export slowdown. The deficit increased from £343m to £779m.

Export volumes to non-EU countries dipped, leaving them virtually flat over the quarter while imports rose 1.8 per cent. However, trade figures are very volatile from month to month.

The pound's appreciation in the past 18 months is widely expected to hit the trade balance eventually as surveys have showed sharp falls in export orders for some time. Alan Armitage, head of economics at the Engineering Employers' Federation, said industry's switch over the years to producing more sophisticated goods had lengthened the lead time for export orders.

Simon Briscoe at Nikko Europe said manufacturers had coped by cutting margins, and this could not continue for ever.

with pay-TV to double in 10 years

Number of homes

The pay-television industry in this country will turn in profits of nearly £2bn a year within a decade, according to a report to be published next week.

Cathy Newmon looks at the pay-TV winners and

Pre-tax profits from subscriptions and advertising in the pay-TV market will increase dramatically over the coming years as an explosion in the number of services on offer will encourage customers to pay more per head, says the report. by the media consultants, Oliver & Ohlbaum Associates, and the publishers, Screen Digest.

The number of homes subscribing to pay-TV is likely to double over the next 10 years to more than 12 million. However, cable subscriptions are not expected to drive the growth. The Cable Communications Association says cable companies have attracted two-thirds of new pay-TV subscribers over

the past year. Mark Oliver, managing director and founder of Oliver & Ohlbaum, said this trend was unlikely to continue. Although cable companies had been optimistic about improving pen-

spond by offering its own basic selection.

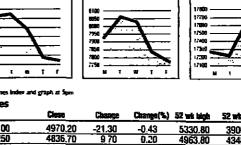
British Digital Broadcusting. the group operating digital terrestrial pay-TV, is planning to offer a low-cost package of a few selected channels for under £10. The report also says BDB will have to invest in excess of £400m before breaking even, £100m more than it originally planned.

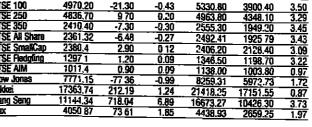
Sports are likely to persuade viewers to switch from analogue to digital technology. Both cable and satellite are to launch on digital next year. and pay-per-view sport and "season ticket" football would drive the new platform, Mr Oliver said. Customers were more likely to fork out around £200 for the set-top box needed for digital television if they could watch a whole season's games for a club such as Newcastle United.

Cable operators will continue to have a tough time and are unlikely to make any money from their TV operations before 2003. Between now and then they will have racked up an extra £2bn in losses.

Programmers will fare better, with basic channel providers such as UK Gold, Sky One, MTV and Granada Plus moving from an estimated combined loss of £173m next year to profits of £320m in 2007. Total payetration by offering customers TV revenue from subscriptions smaller packages of channels, and advertising will rise from Mr Oliver said BSkyB would re- £1.8bn in 1997 to £5.1bn in 2007.

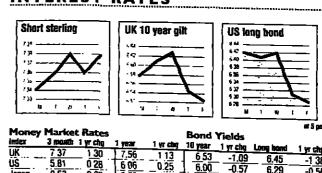
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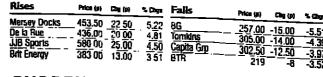


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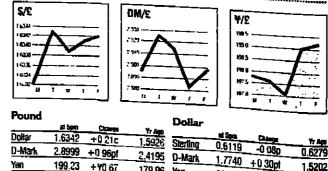
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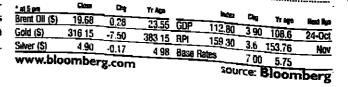
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BAe group wins bid to buy Siemens Defence Electronics

The consolidation of Europe's defence industry will take a significant step forward on Monday when a consortium of British Aerospace and Daimler-Benz announces the acquisition of Siemens Defence

Electronics for about £375m. The BAe-Daimler bid beat off offers from GEC and Thornson-CSF of France and is likely to set the scene for a further round of cross-border rationalisation of Europe's defence

and aerospace companies. has been championing the idea

of a pan-European holding company taking in both commercial and military aircraft production and defence electronics. The deal on Monday will be an important step towards that goal since Daimler is also one of BAe's partners in the Airbus and Eurofighter

programmes. Siemens Defence Electronics has a world-wide workforce of 6,000, annual sales of DM1.6bn (£552m) and specialises in air defence equipment For the past two years BAe and battlefield communications systems. About half of its op-

erations are based in Britain under the name of Siemens Plessey Electronic Systems which Siemens acquired in the late 1980s following GEC's takeover of Plessey.

Siemens Plessey Systems has a UK workforce of about 2.500 and sales of £250m. Its products include air defence systems and naval radars. Siemens is also part of the Archer consortium which is bidding on the Bowman programme - a £2.5bn contract to supply the Ministry of Defence with a digital battlefield comtriot air defence system.

The acquisition of Siemens Defence will come as a consosecure a stake in Thomson-CSF. The French government has se-Thomson-CSF as part of the pri-But it is a blow to GEC, which was in the bidding for Thomson

munications system. Siemens has also designed and installed Germany's version of the Pa-

lation to BAe after its failure to lected Alcatel to partner vatisation of the state-owned defence electronics business. and has missed out on two deals. - Michael Harrison

25/BUSINESS





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JEREMY Warner ON A WEEK OF TURBULENCE

Spooking the markets with fixed exchange rates

The crisis in Hong Kong this week came not a moment too soon for Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. If the City was cursing him on Monday for his apparent reversal in policy on European mon-etary union, it had all been largely forgotten by Wednesday, by which time the Hang Seng was in free fall and showing worrying signs of spreading its illness to the rest of the world's financial markets. It all rather put the Chancellor's spot of turbulence over the single currency into perspective.

Strangely, there was a kind of connection between the two episodes, albeit only one of issue; they were both about fixed exchange rates and the pros and cons of having them. In Hong Kong, the crisis was caused by international speculators testing the sustainability of the former colony's peg to the US dollar. Having successfully devalued all the other Pacific Rim currencies, the target became the region's only remaining safe haven, Hong Kong.

In Britain the confusion was about whether the Labour Government wants us to become a part of monetary union and at what stage. With memories of Britain's disastrous membership of the European exchange rate mechanism still relatively fresh, it was perhaps inevitable that those cautioning against it should eventually gain the upper hand. Hong Kong says it will cling to its treasured dollar

parity to the last, apparently oblivious to the recessionary effect of such a policy. Britain says that for the time being, it would much rather have the economic safety valve of a floating exchange rate.

Several newspapers carried close up shots of Mr Brown's bitten to the bone finger nails in an attempt to heighten the sense of crisis around the Chancellor. The 10th anniversary of the stock market crash inevitably became "Brown Monday". As it happens, Mr Brown has always bitten his finger nails, which are no worse now than they have ever been. He could hardly have been more relaxed when I met him later in the week. Even so, there is no doubtthe City felt badly let down by the Chancellor's apparent about turn. Labour's honeymoon with the financial markets appears to have been brought to an abrupt end.

So why did he do it? Why did he give his interview to The Times in which he (or his press advisers) encouraged the suggestion that there would be no decision on the single currency during the life time of this Parliament. While inaugurating the Stock Exchange's new order-driven trading system, he went further still, listing five pre-conditions for British membership. Why? The explanation seems to be that the Chancellor began to believe there was a real danger of the markets getting the

wrong end of the stick. Markets had wrongly started to believe that Britain would be entering in the first wave or very shortly thereafter. As a result, a convergence play was taking place in the mar-

kets and he needed to disillusion them. Was the Chancellor persuaded to change his mind on the single currency? Or was the original Financial Times story. which had given the markets their view. all along just the fevered imaginings of the journalist who wrote it? Whatever the answer, it appears that Mr Brown now genuinely believes it would be wrong for Britain to enter while its economy is so

far out of sync with Germany and France. It would plainly be inappropriate for Britain at this stage of the economic cycle to adopt low, continental-style interest rates. The result would be an uncontrollable boom, followed inevitably by a bust. Mr Brown's policy objective is not so much that of bringing Britain into line with the continental economic cycle, as that of bucking the cycle altogether by delivering sustained low inflation growth. For the time being that objective is incompatible with single currency membership.

I've been accused by a number of readers this week of being a prophet of doom, of not just forecasting a stock market crash but actually wanting one, rather like one

of those sad old men who wander up and down Oxford Street with a sandwich board predicting the end of the world is

Here's a taste from one of the letters. "Edgar Cayce says the earth will tilt on its axis in 1998. You'll enjoy that. Just what you want so much because it will make 1987 look like a vicar's tea party. Sounds like your kind of scene."

The writer raises a good point. Journalists do indeed have a tendency to will disaster, for if everything went along on an even keel, there wouldn't be anything for us to write about. It is the extremes of behaviour that fascinate us, not just because drama is our business, but also because it sells newspapers. The question is whether we are suspending our judgement by warning of the dangers of overheated world stock markets.

Only time will tell, I guess, but I would argue that those of us who take this view are providing a useful counter weight to the much more powerful group of vested interests that go the other way. It's not quite so bad here, but in the US the situation has reached alarming proportions. You cannot switch on the television or open a newspaper without being bombarded with advertisements saying buy, buy, buy.

The financial services industry has a

clear and powerful motive for claiming that everything is just hunky dory in the stock market and that there is no reason returns shouldn't remain at their present heady levels. That's how the industry makes its commission. As a consequence it is prone to invent ever more ludicrous and tenuous explanations for why this

What I'm saying here is that my vested interest in arguing that Wall Street is now a dangerous speculative bubble is not nearly as great as the industry's in arguing the opposite thing. When you hear that the normal rules of economics have been suspended because of American led leaps in productivity, technology and globalisation, you know for sure that the party is on to its last drunken dance.

Edgar Cayce, the famous American clairvoyant, predicted that the City of Atlantis would rise from the sea near the island of Bimini sometime towards the end of the 1960s. It is now 1997 and we are still waiting. That might well be my fate with Wall Street too, but somehow I doubt it. Don't take it from me though. Just listen to what Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve has been saying about irrational exuberance. As far as I can ascertain, he has no vested interest in

*Brussels hints of lenient approach to BA alliance

The European Competition Commissioner, Karel Van Miert, looks increasingly likely to scale back the concessions Brussels is demanding from British

Airways and American Airlines in return for approving their tie-up. Michael Harrison examines the latest state of play in the long-running battle to get clearance for the

transatlantic alliance.

Mr Van Miert recently indicated he was prepared to relax his demand that the two carriers give up 353 take-off and landing slots at Heathrow.

3.373

"It is not an absolute figure. - If there is good reason to modify it we'll be willing to talk about it," he said.

Senior BA executives are

now increasingly confident they have persuaded the competition authorities in Brussels to take a more lenient approach. Officials in the Commission's competition directorate, DG4, are now said to be examining the impact of the alliance on the European air travel market as a whole, not just on London, where the two carriers will have more than 60 per cent of the transatlantic market.

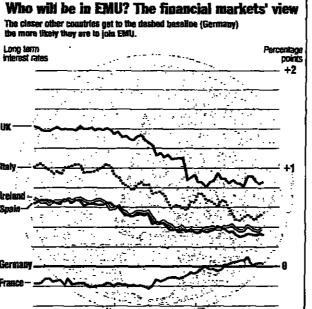
The suggestion is Brussels may be prepared to see a smaller number of slots surrendered - perhaps 250 - with other capacity being made available from the other airline alliances already operating alliance spearheaded by Lufthansa and United Airlines.

Mr Van Miert is expected to set out his final terms for approving the alliance in the middle to latter part of next month after an exhaustive review of the alliance and extensive discussions between officials and executives from the two airlines.

"The key issue is not how many slots should be confiscated but what level of competition there will be, how many services will be operated and how you achieve that. That message has got across," one executive said.

BA has consistently argued that the Commission's initial findings were "flawed" because they did not take into account the fact that 52 per cent of all its transatlantic passengers originated outside the UK. This, it claimed, made it disingenuous to concentrate mainly on its monopoly at Heathrow where it operates in competition with American on six routes.

whether and if so how BA and AA will be compensated for slots. EU regulations are silent on the matter although in practice slot trading takes place. American paid TWA \$450m when it took over its services from the US to Heathrow and has made clear it will not hand



TOWARDS EMU: It the line moves towards the German base line it means investors no longer require such a high premium for holding that country's bonds compared to German ones, because they are confident the currency won't devalue against the mark. In other words, they think that country will be locked into a single currency with Germany in 10 years' time.

AWAY FROM EMU: However, if they think the country won't be in EMU, that it will have higher inflation, and that there is a risk of a future devaluation against the mark, then they will demand an extra premium for holding that country's bonds, so the line will move away from the base.

When will EMU start? The City Analysts' View.

The Independent asked analysis from: Nikko Europe, Paine Webber, ABN Amro, JP Morgan, Deutsche Morgan Granfell alomon Brothers, Goldman Sachs, HSBC James Capel, UBS what probability they placed on EMU starting on time.

Probability EMU starts on time: (83% last week Probability EMU is delayed: 14% (13% last week) 4% Probability EMU never happens (4% last week

Objections to IN BRIEF interest rates lessen hopes

Growing French hostility to domestic interest rate hikes has led to pessimism among some of The Independent's panel of experts about EMU's likely start date.

"Opposition to interest rate rises in France has been very vocal," noted Robert Lind of ABN Amro. The probability of EMU starting on time now stands at 82 per cent, slightly down on last week's figure.

The Bank of France raised rates by 0.2 of a percentage point a fortnight ago, following similar moves by the German Bundesbank.

But, as higher interest rates may jeopardise French economic growth, left-wing politicians have objected to the Bank of France's actions.

"The French nation feels that it has paid an adequate Darren Williams of UBS.

On Tuesday, in an almost unprecedented move, France's parliamentary finance commission "invited" the monetary council, led by Jean-Claude Trichet, the governor of the Bank of France, to explain its decision to raise rates.

Huge increase in production pushes Boeing to \$696m loss

Boeing, the US aerospace giant, reported a \$696m (£426m) loss for the third quarter after taking a \$1.6bn pre-tax charge to cover the disruption in its assembly plants caused by the huge increase in commercial airliner production. The loss compares with net income in the same period last year of \$466m. The charge will cover the cost of overtime, production bottlenecks and penalty payments to airlines for late delivery. Boeing expects to incur a further \$1bn in charges next year.

Biocompatibles boosts team

Biocompatibles, the biotechnology group, has moved to strengthen its management team by appointing two US executives. Eric Sivertson will head up the group's cardiovascular division and Richard Kapash becomes chief executive of the eyecare division. Biocompatibles' share price has plunged since it failed to sign a deal with Johnson & Johnson of the US last month.

SIB allows stock borrowing

The Securities and Investments Board said it had decided not to impose regulations on stock borrowing and repo transactions, in accordance with advice it received from the Market Conduct Group, an advisory body. The SIB said it agreed with the group "that the borrowing of stock for on-lending purposes should be seen as permissible. The London Stock Exchange recently changed its rules so as to restrict business of this sort no longer.

Viglen sells office for £3m

Viglen Technology, formerly the Amstrad computer group, has sold Brentwood House, the old former head office of Amstrad, to Amsprop Trading for £3m. Alan Sugar, Amstrad's founder and a director of both companies, owns 76 per cent of the issued share capital of Amsprop. Mr Sugar also owns 34 per cent

Energy buys plant in Turkey

The Energy Group said its subsidiary, Peabody, and partners NRG and Koc Holding had won a bid to acquire the 450 megawatt Kangal coal-fired generation plant in central Turkey for \$125m (£77m). The consortium has submitted bids for other distribution and generation assets which are still under evaluation. Energy Group said power from the Kangal station would be sold to Teas, the Turkish national power company, under a 20-year power purchase deal. NRG is a wholly owned subsidiary of Northern States Power Company. Koc Holding is a conglomerate in Turkey and a Fortune Global 500 corporation.

Pathfinders to merge

Pathfinder Properties, the AIM-quoted property group, and Pathfinder Repossessions have agreed to merge. Pathfinder Properties is offering seven of its shares for every Pathfinder Repossessions share. The terms value each Pathfinder Repossessions share at 161p. There is a cash alternative of 115.5p. Pathfinder Properties said it was also seeking to raise an additional £1.3m for further property acquisitions and development via an open offer.

Care First founder set to make £18m

Keith Bradshaw, the chairman and founder of Care First, could find himself on the board of Bupa if his company is

zaken over. Mr Bradshaw, who was criticised for a poardroom bust up with Shai Patel, the former :hief executive of Care First, stands to make 18m from a takeover, eports Sameena Ahmad.

Mr Bradshaw, the controversial chairman of Care First could be offered a board position with-An announcement from in Bupa following a possible cash takeover of the nursing home group by the medical in-

surance giant. Mr Bradshaw, who owas over 7 per cent of Care First's shares, would make more than £18m from a takeover, which could be pitched at up to 150p a share.

It is unclear whether Mr Bradshaw has asked for an advisory role as part of takeover negotiations. Mr Patel, who resigned from Care First after a row with Mr Bradcompany and could make £1.5m from the deal.

Bupa could come within two weeks. Advisers are SBC Warburg on Care First's side and Schroders for Bupa. Schroders advised Bupa on its £76m takeover of Goldsborough Healthcare, the nursing home group,

Contrary to press suggestions, Bupa has no plans to go hostile in a bid for Care First. Suggestions that Omega, the US property management group, has had discussions with Care First were also firmly denied by Jim Flaherty, the chief

executive of Omega UK. However, there are rumours venture capitalists might be considering backing a counter offer.

Norwich Union, a rival insurer to Bupa and which recently named Care First as one of its preferred providers for long-term care insurance, said it was happy to continue its relationship with Care First if Bupa's bid was successful.

Philip Scott, group director of life pensions said: "A bid from Bupa wouldn't change things. We already have shared agreements with Bupa on hospitals. Goldsborough is also on our preferred list of suppliers."

Ofgas director to head **Electricity Pool review**

Eileen Marshall, director of regulation at Ofgas, the gas watchdog and architect of the controversial British Gas pipeline price cuts, has been asked to lead the review of the

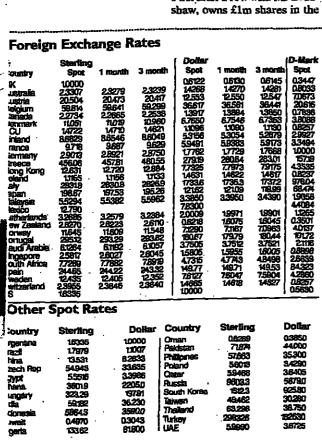
wholesale electricity market. The move is likely to unsettle further the generators, National Power and Power-Gen, which have been accused of abusing their market power

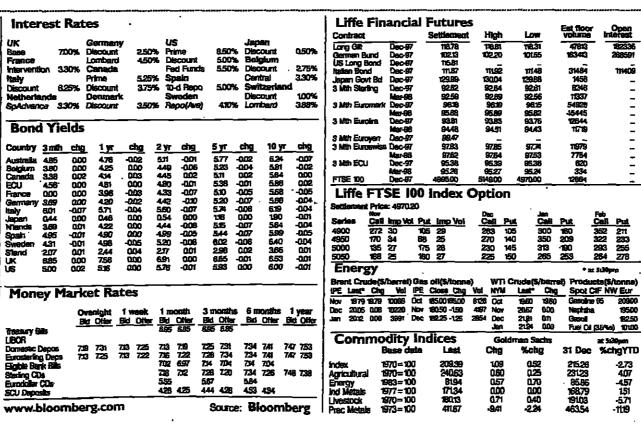
to push up electricity prices. Professor Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator, has asked Ms Marshall to bead the review, announced on Thursday by John Battle, the industry minister. Professor Littlechild was charged with drawing up the terms of the inquiry by Christmas.

Ms Marshall, who is also Ofgas's chief economist, has maintained an interest in the Pool since a five-year term at Offer, the electricity watchdog, where she was head of regulation. The move will increase speculation that she will be a leading contender for the job of combined power and gas regulation if the

the two departments merge. — Chris Godsmark

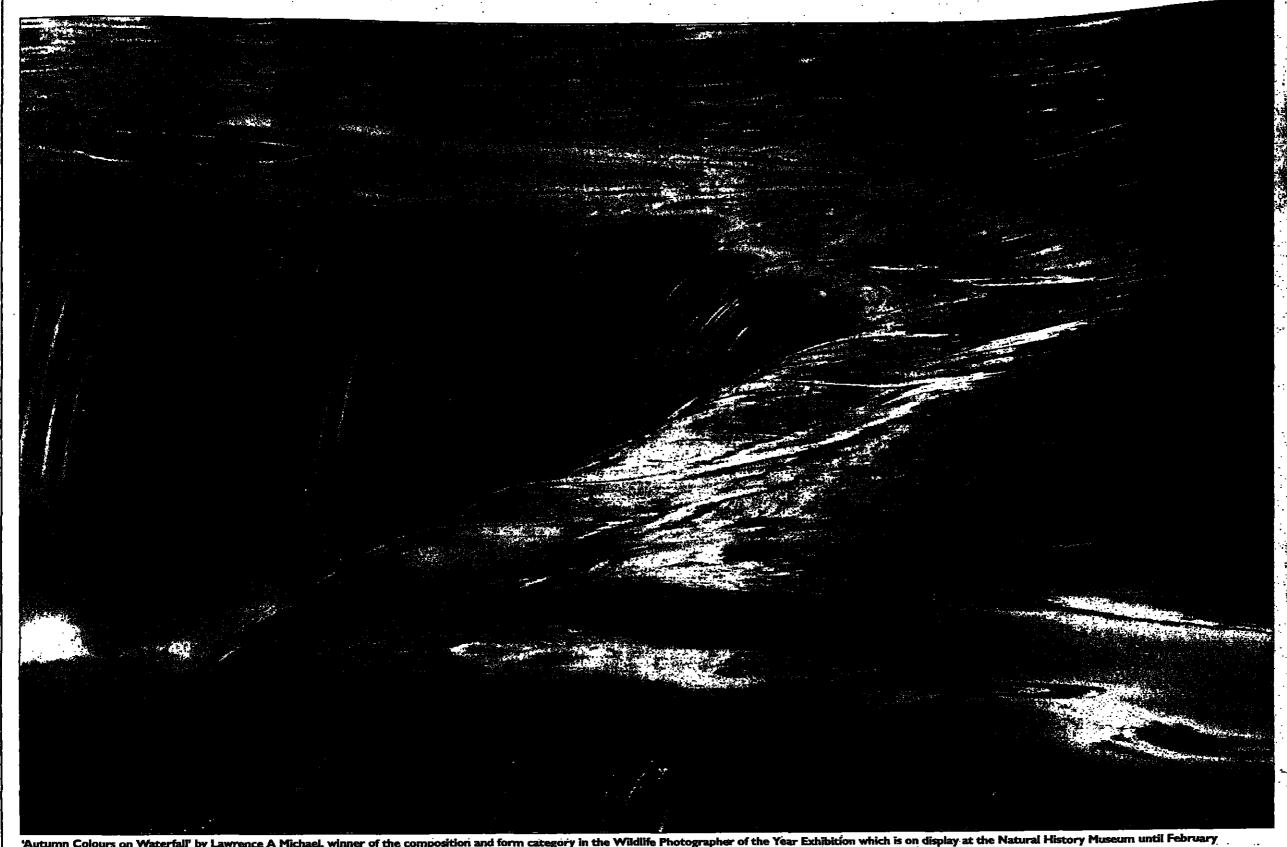
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TRAVEL, LEISURE & SPORT



At the heart of India's big bang theory

festival of Diwali approaches this

autum

*Thursday, Kenneth Wilson remembers another dramatic ceremony at one of India's most sacred cities.

Varanasi is the city of death. The life-giving river Ganges, flowing past the eastern edge of the city, here bears life away. At Varanasi, the sacred river is half way from its birth in the Himalayan abode of the gods, to its absorption in the Bay of Bengal. And this is the place to come and die.

The smell of death hangs over the city. Beside the new, unused civic crematorium. funeral pyres burn continuously on the bank of the river. Death in Varanasi, it is said, leads to immediate release from the cycle of birth and rebirth. Without passing Go, the soul proceeds direct to its absorption in the infinite - its moksha, its liberation.

From all over India eldest sons come to Varanasi, bearing the ashes of their parents, to scatter them on the great river. For not everyone has the prescience to reach Varanasi before they pass away, and baving your ashes scattered on the Ganges at this holy point is the next best thing.

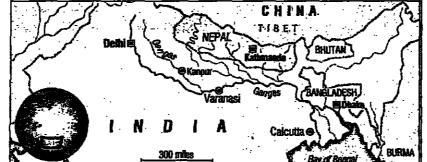
This is the city of Lord Shiva, known as the Destroyer, whose symbol is the unmistakably phallic lingam. The funeral pyres leaping flames copying the frenzied ecstasy

Nearly two tons of beaten gold cover the dome of Lord Shiva's temple, called Vishwanath, in the old city. In its dark interior, beneath enormous bells, stands the simple black lingam, adorned with flowers and gleaming with the milk and honey that are continually poured over it. And here, on the great night of Lord Shiva, when he is married to the goddess Parvati, the earth is shaken to its core, as the holy couple remake the universe.

Mahashivratri, as that night is called, is the night for love-making. Couples should remain at home, and with all necessary adornments relive their first night of conjugality. Only the young men, waiting for their marriages to be arranged, are on the streets. In their tens of thousands they come to celebrate their virility, and sublimate it in a ferocious religious drama.

I followed the crowd that night. A mile from the temple it was already thick. A wind band, screeching mesmerically and tunelessly, and preceded by a dangerously lit float, hacked its way through. Almost naked sadhus, smeared with ghostly ash, lunged at us out of the crowd. Spotting foreigners, they opened their straw baskets and waved cobras under our noses, until they were satisfied with our donations.

Near the temple, we entered the realms



of barbed wire and armed troops. Like its better known cousin, Ayodhya, Varanasi is also sometimes a focus of Hindu-Muslim tension. It was a Mughal habit to build mosques aggressively close to the holiest shrines of the Hindus they had conquered. and here, as at Ayodhya, enthusiastic Hindus now want to tear them down.

Forty thousand troops, according to the following day's paper, were deployed to keep a million young men in order. Narrow barriers kept us controlled beneath high fences and barbed wire. The atmosphere was tense. The crowd was dense and hot, and religious fervour was heightened by drink and sweet-smelling drugs. "Hari! Hari! Bom! Bom! Hari! Hari! Bom! Bom!" The chant increased in intensity as we approached the temple's entrance.

It was a dangerous night to be out. Only

the flower-sellers and the troops were unmoved. Suddenly, at midnight, we rounded a final corner and surged towards the temple entrance. An army officer

black boots intimidatingly close to my ritually bare feet. "What are you doing here?" It was not

stepped out in front of me and barred the

way. Telephone and revolver bulging

from his khaki shirt, he placed his heavy

a friendly question. I struggled to answer him in Hindi. "We

have come to take darshan of Lord Shiva." "Why? You are not Hindus. You are not allowed. Who is with you? Give me your passports." The crowd behind us was not pleased to be held up. The chanting seemed to grow louder.

I took a deep breath. There was clearly no going back through this crowd, so I knew Mahashivratri, when Lord Shiva recreates the banks of the sacred river Ganges the world," I said. "On this night, anyone can be Hindu. *hai na?*'

"Hindi! You speak good Hindi! Aage chalo!" He smiled with sudden delight, and slapped me so hard on the back that I nearly fell into the mud. In we went.

Religious frenzy was boiling in the retchingly fetid atmosphere. Young priests, naked to the waist and streaked with red powder paint, took it in turn to restrain the faithful from throwing themselves on to the image of Lord Shiva. Others shovelled the thrown flowers out into the drain.

The crowd behind kept us moving. It was a struggle to catch a glimpse of the holy image, and a struggle to breathe. And that was it. Pushed unceremoniously outside again, nowhere near where we had come in, we were lost. We hurried barefoot through the alleys, slipping through cow dung and bumping into sacred animals and soldiers smoking. Two men rounding a corner with a saffron-wrapped body on their

shoulders nearly knocked us over. Half a night later, being rowed gently along the glassy Ganges at dawn, we surveyed Varanasi's teeming river bank. Surya, the sun god, rose silently behind the far bank, and acknowledged the thousands of bathing worshippers. Lord Shiva, exhausted from the primal work of procreation, slept, and a new and reordered world came miraculously into being.

I had better be persuasive. "Tonight is Life, the universe and everything: on

Photograph: Colin McPherson

Getting there: the easiest way to reach Varanasi is via Delhi. Air Canada, Air India, British Airways and United Airlines fly non-stop from London Heathrow to the Indian capital; KI_M/Northwest offer daily connections from numerous UK airports via Amsterdam. About a dozen other airlines will get you to Delhi via various indirect routings, stopping anywhere from Ashkhabad to Zurich. The lowest fares, starting at around £350 return, are available from discount travel agents rather than direct from airlines.

From Delhi, you can fly on Indian Airlines to Varanasi in a couple of hours for around £110 return. Thetrain is much cheaper but takes around 20 hours.

Visas: British passport holders need a visa to visit India; call the 24-hour visa information service (0891 880800). More information: Indian Government Tourist Office, 7 Cork Street, London W1X 2LN (0171-437 3677). Open 9.30am-1pm and 2pm-6pm.

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Who has the fastest French connection?

If this really were the age of the Euro-train, then Harriet O'Brien should have been able to beat Simon Calder on a London-Paris trip by joining a train at Waterioo and stepping off at the Gare du Nord. But even with everything weighted in Eurostar's favour, the train failed to beat the plane.

It's Friday, it's five to five, and it's time to rush headlong from London to Paris. But this race is nothing like the dozens of previous sprints between the two capitals. Instead of timing the trip from one city centre to the other, this one tests whether Eurostar is fastest on a station-to-station journey: from the ticket barrier at Waterloo International to the concourse of the Gare du Nord, If Eurostar cannot win this race, then - whatever its other advantages - it cannot claim to be the fastest route between London and Paris.

I set out to demonstrate that, using only public transport, you can beat the time of the train. The rules were straightforward. Harriet nominated her train, the 5.15pm non-stop from Waterloo. She had to check in 20 minutes ahead - which is when, and where, the race started for both of us,

The moment she went through the gate, I had to start finding a way to Paris Gare du Nord using alternative public transport, but not cutting corners: I had to respect the check-in time for the flight.

Speed, of course, is not everything. Each of us had to achieve several tasks on the way to Paris: go for a walk, make a friend. have an exotic drink - and write our account of the trip. This is how it was for me:

4.55pm: escalator to the main concourse. I could have headed south (Gatwick), east (City Airport) or north (Luton), but the airline timetables suggested that Heathrow would be the best bet. A battle with a ticket machine secured a passage to Feltham.

4.58: the train left right on time, and muddled along happily through the autumnal suburbia south of the Thames to the closest railway station to the airport.

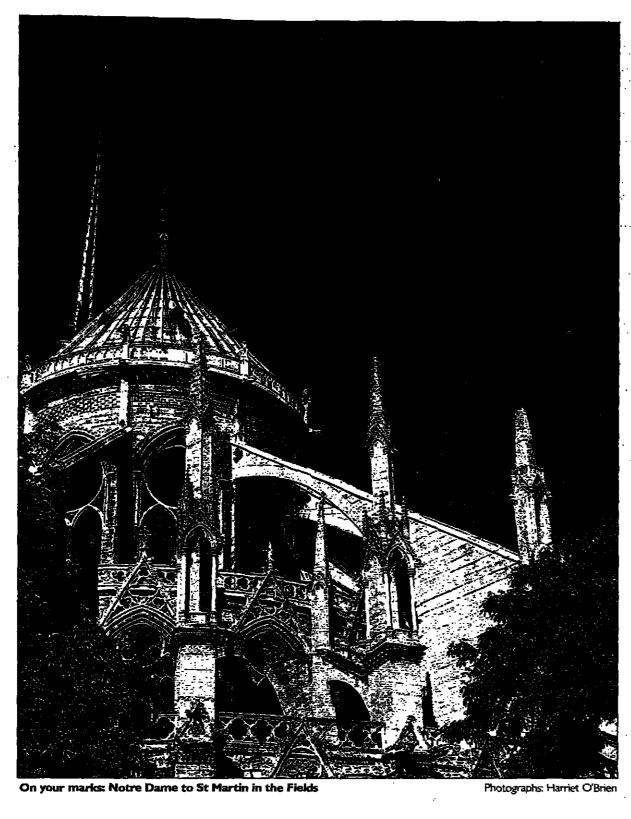
5.27: it arrived on schedule, meaning I could walk to Heathrow instead of searching for a bus. Terminal 4 is a half-hour hike along Bedfont Lane, Richmond Avenue, across the allotments and down Cain's Lane - where planespotters congregate.

5.57: I reached the airport just before the opm check-in deadline for the Paris Orly flight. I chose this one partly because it was the first one out, but also because Orly is closer to the city centre than Charles de Gaulle, for which there was a departure 10

ting the time for a pre-flight aperitif. But Garfunkel's Bar was right opposite the gate, so I gulped down my last cheap beer of the weekend - £2 for a pint of Heineken.

6.20: on board, with a free newspaper and a comfortable seat. I'd asked to be placed as far forwards as possible in the economy cabin, so as to get a head start at the far end. The happy spin-off was to find myself in one of the Club Europe seats that was temporarily located in the economy section.

6.30: push-back on time; take-off from a crowded airport 15 minutes later. Harriet was already half-way through the tunnel.



6.50: within five minutes of becoming airborne, I had been given a snack and the lager and tomato juice I asked for. This unusual drink - which originated in the US as a "Bud and blood" and sounds like a particularly savage hangover cure, but tastes surprisingly good - was enough to get my neighbour, Rahim, talking. By the time we touched down, 40 minutes later, he had convinced me that I would have to visit his home country, Algeria, once the now that's what I call a race.

8.35 (French time): BA 338 gets to the stand ahead of time. It is only now that things begin to go badly wrong. If one passport official attempts to check the papers of all the passengers from a 757, how long will it take someone in a tearing hurry to get through immigration? About eight long. tense minutes.

8.47: Clear at last, and out of the terminal. Harriet's train is scheduled to arrive in half-an-hour. A taxi would certainly get me to the Gare du Nord first, but the rules forbid it. So I board the first bus out - an

Air France service, price 40F, to the city. If you ever find yourself landing at Orly-Sud in a hurry, do yourself a favour: take a taxi. The bus takes an age to leave. mainly because a constant dribble of passengers from my flight keeps arriving. Then it heads for Orly-Ouest, and takes on more passengers there. It then drives back past Orly-Sud, before finally hitting

6.10: the queue for security was slow, cut- awful conflict ends. Aberdeen to Algiers: 9.10: The first chance to leap out of a traffic-enguifed bus is at Porte d'Orléans metro station. I just miss a train. A well-known loi means a 10-minute wait for the next one.

> 9.27: I change to the faster RER line at Denfert-Rochereau, knowing that Harriet is probably already sipping a beer on the concourse at Gare du Nord. To avoid keeping her waiting too long, and to minimise my embarrassment, I stride quickly from the subterranean platform to the Eurostar end of the Gare du Nord where I collide breathlessly with a relaxedlooking Englishwoman who has just arrived on the delayed train from London. Hello, Harriet.

> > Atlantic chart, noon today

So the answer to "Can the plane compete?" is a qualified "Yes"; but the whole exercise begs the question "Why?". Surely only claustrophobes who fear the Tunnel would: endure the hours of hassle, uncertainty and stress of flying? Technically a tie; but a moral victory for Harriet.

On the journey home, we decide to try the old city centre to city-centre routine. We set off simultaneously from the zero point outside Notre-Dame cathedral (whence all distances in France are measured). My quick trip on the RER out to Charles de Gaulle was offset by BA's chaotic boarding procedures. With surprising frankness, Captain Guest announces at one stage that "We still don't seem to have mastered the art of getting aircraft away on time."

The plane arrived about 20 minutes late, causing me to miss three trains from Feltham, Even so, I reached the steps of St Martin's in the Fields church in Trafalgar Square in just over four hours, a comfortable 20-minute margin ahead of Harriet. Her serenity had slipped a tad. "Bloody Bakerloo Line", she explained.

Simon Calder



'We're off... but it's not so much a flying start as a gentle lollop'

4.55, say good bye: as Simon and I part company at the ticket barrier in Waterloo's Eurostar terminal, I can't help feeling this is not really a contest. The odds are so clearly in my favour. Simon sprints off for a train that will (somehow) take him to Heathrow, I simply amble through the barrier, past baggage checks and into - a scrum. People are heaped everywhere. On a Friday evening it's a sight almost worthy of Heathrow's Terminal Two.

5.05, get in place: At Waterloo, Eurostar passengers wait in the lounge. cooped up as if under starter's orders until the doors to the platforms are opened. Then, a bit like the beginning of a Grand National, passengers scurry through in the knowledge that they have 10 minutes to find their seats before the train pushes off.

5.16, we're off: We leave a minute late. And it's not exactly a flying start. more like a gentle lollop as the train meanders through the autumn leafiness of London.

6, get walking: I've read the magazine. given up on the crossword; now I'll stretch my legs and check out the facilities. The train is trickling through Kent. causing a slightly drunken swaying effect as I manoeuvre my way down the carriage. Most of my fellow passengers seem to have dozed off - those that haven't appear to have made a bee-line for the bar. Decide that one carriage does not constitute a walk, so I lurch down four, pop into a toilet and get back to my seat to find a French immigration official hovering over it. A quick flick through my documents and that's it - end of bureaucracy.

6.30, get talking: I've been told I have to make a friend as part of this challenge, and thought about bringing some Play-Doh to construct a DIY pal. Then I felt that might be cheating. But perhaps it would have been a good idea. At my opening gambit of conversation the Frenchman beside me firmly plugs himself into his Walkman and closes his eyes, so I take the hint: no friend in the making there. Now I head for the har, and in the queue get chatting to a Japanese lady, Mrs Arisan, Her French is better than her English (and my Japanese) and we stumble through a good-natured exchange. She's been on the Eurostar from London to Paris

twice before - a very good journey. She nods and smiles.

6.35, drink up: The buffet carriage is not exactly a cocktail bar - it's more British Rail with a foreign accent but you can get champagne at an exotic price: £6 for 20cl of Duval Leroy. As the train approaches the tunnel I decide to celebrate crossing the frontier with a glass of fresh orange juice: £1.20 for a small bottle.

6.40, going down: We're locked into our carriage once we're in the tunnel. Twenty-six minutes later, we're released as we pop up on French soil. Just past Calais you feel the train accelerating. Then, whoosh - you're speeding through France at 300km (186 miles) an hour. My French neighbour removes his Walkman earphones to inform me of this. He gets in first. just before the French stewardess makes a similarly smug announcement.

8.55, nearly there: We've been told the bar is about to close, so all looks well for the train arriving on time at 9.17. I'm expecting a long wait for Simon at the Gare du Nord. Then, just as we reach the outskirts of Paris we slow down, and down. Dawdle, dawdie, dawdie.

9.40, fate but not lost: We finally saunter in, 23 minutes late. Simon and I arrive at the station simultaneously, so it's a dead heat. A rerun is

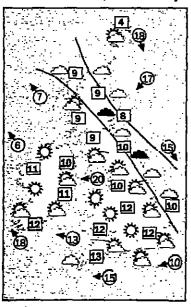


Saturday, 7.40: Having slept all the way from Paris to London, I don't feel like a loser in the Notre Dame to St Martin's in the Fields return challenge. There were no delays, no hitches. My only frustration has been travelling the one Tube stop between Waterloo and the Embankment.

Harriet O'Brien

WEATHER

The British Isles, noon today



6:53an

6:56am

6:58am

to 7:11am

General summary and outlook: A weak cold front will push south-west into Scotland. as high pressure centred off the Irish Sea slips south.

The north and north-east of Scotland will have further rain, with sleet or snow at first in Shetland, Cloud will spread down the eastern side of Scotland and north-east England with a little rain or drizzle possible this afternoon. South-west Scotland and Northern lieland will be dry with sunny spells, but it will be cloudier later. Wales and western and southern counties of England will see plenty of sunshine again after any early log and low cloud has cleared.

High pressure will continue to dominate the weather for the next few days. This means that many places will stay dry. However, Scotland will be mostly cloudy and there will be some light rain and drizzle at times, especially in the north and east. The south and west will be drier and brighter. The best of the sunshine is tikely to be in southern and western parts of England and Wates, but early next week, wind and cloud will

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AA Roadwatch

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emment Meeting High St. Chambers St. Holy-rood Rd. Cannovgale, Horse Wynd the Mound, Peopera Rd clossed at various brines. Expect severe disruption. Use Park and Ride Glasgow: M73 Closed between J2 (M8/A8 Bailestoni Glasgow (East) and J3 Mollingburn (A80) due to readworks. Northbound contraflow

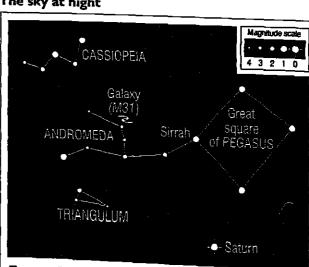
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Out and about with AA Road-watch cal 0336 401 to the latest local and national paths need Source. The Automo-tale Association Calls charged at 30p per min rchase rate) 49p per min (all other boxes) inc

Sun and moon



The sky at night



The constellation Andromeda, and its famous galaxy (M31), are located near the prominent Great Square of Pegasus, which can be seen high up in evening skies over the next few weeks.

Andromeda is one of those constellations that most people have heard of but is unimpressive as a star pattern. Its fame and glory stem from a single coincidence: it hosts the most distant object visible to the naked eye. The Andromeda Galaxy lies more than 2 million light years away, yet its nucleus appears as a fuzzy 4th-magnitude star. By comparison, the distance to Andromedia's brightest star. Sirrah, is a mere 100-light-year hop. Though indistinct, Andromeda is in effect an extension of Pegasus, so easy to locate. Sirrah, officially in Andromeda, marks one corner of the Great Square of Pegasus, a prominent feature of evening skies for the next couple of months. Binoculars will confirm you have found the galaxy's nucleus, but the magnificent spiral familiar from photographs is too faint to detect by eye. Were it all visible, the galaxy would extend over an area of sky four or five times larg-

High tides

AM HT PM HT

9.24 5.7 22.13 5.9

7.30 7.3 20.02 7.5

2.47 9.4 15.23 9.7

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8.57 2.8 20.30 3.0

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48 hours in the life of ... he Marais

ou need a break – and a nort cut to the soul of a ity. Each week, 'The dependent provides a escription for the rfect weekend break. This week, Simon Calder spends 48 hours in Paris – and all of it within the medieval boundaries of

Why go now?

the Marais.

Because autumn bestows a extra layer of atmosphere upon the ancient core of the Right Bank of the Seine. Because in just two Jays, it pays to concentrate on this small area of the French capital, rich in both artifice and numanity. And because by nipbing across to Paris, you can regain the hour of evening light ':bat you'll lose tonight.

Beam down

Lurostar from London Water-.00 and Ashford to Paris Gare Ju Nord costs a minimum of £69 - but if you want to travel out on a Friday and back on Sunday, the lowest fare is £79. From Gare du Nord, you can walk to the Marais.

 Most parts of Britain have air inks with Charles de Gaulle aircort; you can travel non-stop irom Birmingham, East Midands, Edinburgh, London (any of five airports), Manchester, and Newcastle - and from Cardiff or Leeds-Bradford any lay except Sunday. Fares start it around £60 return plus taxs - which, from next Saturday, v. total about £20.

From the airport, the RER uburban railway will take you lirect to Chatelet-Les Halles in 35 minutes for 47F. This station s just west of the Marais.

Get your bearings The Marais comprises most of

the third and fourth ar-Frondissements - an area bounded by the Seine to the south, rue Martin to the west, rue de furbigo to the north west, and poulevard Richard Lenoir to the A Monoprix supermarket opeast. The medieval web of posite the Hotel de Sully will proreets within this core is so tand that the standard tourist map of Paris cannot show many anne, on rue des Rosiers at the of the streets. So look for the corner of rue des Hospitaliers Stbuge open-air street plans that Gervais. You can feast inside on crop up at various locations. These have a slot in the side where you can buy a map of the arrondissement for 5F; you'll need one for each of the third 20F each. Before you join the and fourth.

Check in

small Paris lodging-house, where you climb a rickety spitop, try the Hôtel du Marais, 16 there is more than enough to rue de Beauce (00 33 1 42 72 30 26). But a price of 135F/150F much in the way of cleanliness or comfort. A better bet is the two-star Hotel Picard, 26 rue de rue de Fourcy, admission 30F). Picardie (00 33 1 48 87 53 82), where you pay 200F/240F for a places, though, you have to

pay an extra 20F for a shower. There is no such charge at perhaps the most charming mall botel in the Marais, the Hôtel Caron de Beaumarchais, 12 rue Vielle du Temple (00 33 42 72 34 12), which charges and 550F/650F single/douole, with breakfast an additional 54F. And even if you are sleeping elsewhere in economy class lodgings, glance into the lobby of this stylish residence,

decorated with musical scores and antique playing cards.

Take a ride

The good news is that the Pompidou Centre just sneaks within the frontier on the west side of the Marais. The bad news is that this chunky complex, designed by Richard Rogers and Renzo Piano, is undergoing refurbishment and is closed to the public; the Tipi (teepee) planted in the square outside is no substitute. The good news is that you can ride the five-level escalator to the gallery at the top, for one of the best free views of Paris.

Take a hike

It is both tempting and easy to spend the whole weekend ambling around the Marais. For an excellent start, circulate clockwise: begin on rue du Temple, turn right along rue de Bretagne, right again at rue de Turenne and right into rue St-Antoine, which quickly becomes rue de Rivoli.

Celebrate the immense detail of the Marais: the absurd figures decorating doors heavy with age, the meticulous explanations on street signs that tell you the origin of names (no suggestion is given as to the background of Pierre au Lard, who has a rue named after him near the Pompidou Centre, but his street is next to the impasse du Boeuf).

This circuit will give you a good introduction to the area, whose name translates as "marsh". When the land was drained, an ambitious programme of building took place. Many grand structures have survived, most of them elaborate hôtels - private mansions rather than public lodgings. One of the most miraculous is the Hôtel de Sully, on the north side of rue de Rivoli at the end of your walk. You can nip into both the outer and inner courtyards, to be transported to Grand-Siècle tranquillity.

Lunch on the run

vide you with a picnic. Or join the queue outside Chez Mari-Middle Eastern nosh, but those short of time and/or cash can queue up for takeaway falafel huge, stuffed pitta pouches for line, buy a ticket from the shop part of the complex.

If you yearn for a traditional, Cultural afternoon

Forget the rest of the capital's museums and galleries; even Astaircase to your room at the within the bounds of the Marais sate your spirit over a weekend.

For an undemanding warmsingle/twin means you don't get up, start at the Maison Européenne de la Photographie (just south of rue de Rivoli at 5 A graceful gallery has been slotted on to medieval foundaingle/double. In both these tions. The present highlight is Annie Assouline's collection of Visages de Pierre, photographed

in Rome a year ago. The neighbourhood heavyweight, though, is to be found within the Hôtel Salé. The Picasso Museum at 5 rue de Thorigny is set in the 17thcentury home of a salt tax collector. He was clearly a man of some wealth and taste: it's worth paying the 30F entrance fee just to admire the fine stucco work in the opulent entrance

hall. But, of course, the true treasures here are the excellently presented sketches, paintings and sculptures of the modern master. Leave at least two hours to take in the staggering range of Picasso's techniques and styles.

Window shopping

If the Marais has a high street. then it is rue Rambuteau - the dividing line between the third and fourth arrondissements, which feels curiously like the main thoroughfare of a provincial town. Drool a little on the charcuterie and pâtisserie, then go east to rue Vielle du Temple.

selling all that Seventies junk sorry, cultural antiques - you never knew you needed. If you actually want something useful and good value, then locate the curly old ironwork of the Carreau du Temple. On Saturday and Sunday mornings, this lovely, airy market devotes itself to cheap clothing.

The Marais is plump with places of worship: St Denis du Saint Sacrement

Demure dinner

A three-course meal in the middle of Paris for a fiver? Still possible, and a lot tastier and

sun had already metaphorical-

geese. Later, my dictionary re-

So, instead, I wandered off to

ly set on Chiswick House.

retro shops is located here, 15 rue Ste-Croix de la Breton- with places of worship. Visit any Le Gouverneur. For an all-in Jardin de l'Hôtel de Sens, takes you pay 48F for three decent courses of, say, pâté, fish and budget-priced. If you are pre-Marais has dozens of tempting possibilities. An excellent local favourite is Amadeo, south of Rivoli at 19 rue François Miron; book in advance on 00 33 1 48 87 01 02.

> Sunday morning: go church

jollier than you might fear. The From the Armenian Cathedral venue is Le P'tit Gavroche, in to the aeronautical buttresses of brunch options, of which the The highest concentration of the heart of the gay quarter at St Gervais, the Marais is plump best (though not the biggest) is One pocket-sized favourite, the somely cloned town houses.

nière. Between 7pm and 10pm. or all for a more spiritual ex-price of 165F, you get a cocktail only half a minute to wander perionce than Notre-Dame. Perhaps the most joyfully ungâteau. Wine is similarly expected is St Denis du Saint Sacrement, at the north end of pared to spend a little more, the rue du Temple, where the midmorning light floods the virtuous vacuum in the vast nave. then glances around the capacious dome.

Bracing brunch

Mariage Freres is a Marais institution, a genteel tea-room on rue du Bourg Tibourg. At weekends you can choose from four

mariage, fresh fruit juice, muffins, a mountain of savouries and a raid on the den of the mansion.Or try the pâtisserie selection wheeled around on the chariot colonial. No need to eat again for a week.

A walk in the park After a brunch like that, you'll

need one. A particular delight of the Marais is the number of green spaces (and since dogs are banned from them, they comprise the only places where you

through, but provides a private view into the elaborate back parsquare du Temple: a village-sized green complete with bandstand and duck pond, where you can meet the dozens of nationalities resident in the Marais.

Photograph: Smon Calder

Inevitably, though, you will gravitate to the place des Vosges - a perfect square in both the mathematical and architectural senses. Laze around on the newly accessible grass, for can afford to lift your eyes from a liberating contrast to the careful study of the ground). strict formality of the hand-

Summer time officially ends Paris and back (see opposite tonight, when the clocks go back an hour. But according to English Heritage, which looks after some of the country's finest properties, it finished

After a hyper-stressful trip to nign October sun beamed

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unwind.

cheerfully over this rambling page) last weekend, I wan-West London repository of calm. The picture was perdered along to Chiswick Park to fected by Chiswick House, a The English summer was giv-Palladian villa at the heart of the ing its final, vintage afternoon park. Sunlight dappled the handsome sandstone, making performance. An unusually bethe Earl of Burlington's 18thcentury creation look especial-

> 1997 to a triumphant finale. An English Heritage sign outside gave details of opening times in October: "10am-6pm, or dusk if earlier". So, shielding my eyes against the solar

ly winning and bringing summer

glare, I looked for the entrance. Five minutes later, having circumnavigated the property twice, I concluded that the

SIMON **CALDER**



stages of twilight", and in turn defined twilight as "soft light after sunset".

I couldn't help noticing the adjacent definition for twilight zone, which sounded a worryingly precise

definition of my neighbourhood: "inner-city area where houses have become dilapidated". Still, commune with the gossiping at least as a permanent, rather nel Travel, says he shares this than temporary, London resi-

attitude to tourism displayed by English Heritage will be regarded by foreign tourists as discourtesy. As Britain's share of the global tourism cake continues to decline, there are sound economic, as well as moral, grounds for showing respect to overseas visitors.

Most foreign countries demonstrate huge amounts of respect to British tourists - especially, in my experience. Arab nations. Gareth Davis, who presents Travel Live for the cable chanview, but with one notable exvealed dusk to be "the darker dent, I can return some time ception: Timis airport, where the downtown Tunis.

soon. But I fear such a casual Arabic spirit of generosity appears to have been extinguished.

> Tunisia, Mr Davis found his GB Airways flight delayed by six bours. He sought solace in the executive lounge. But at Tunis airport, even premium passengers are limited to just two drinks.

> Mr Davis sipped his way through the allowance as slowly as he could, then set off to find additional refreshment. A coffee vendor was selling small dinars. At around £1,80, this is many times the going rate in

What about people who had spent all their local currency? "No problem," said the At the end of a trip to coffee man. "You can pay with sterling."

How much will a cup cost then? "£5."

After he had stopped laughing, Mr Davis started wortying. "There were lots of families stuck in a hot, airless departure lounge, with no way of escaping to the outside world. The abuse of a monopoly meant parents could end up paying £20 for a round of soft drinks. It seems cups of the beverage for three a shame that this could be the main memory for people returning from an otherwise

lovely country."

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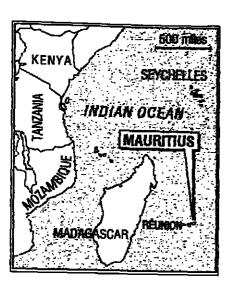
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5/MAURITIUS

Creole charm in unchartered territory



Mauritius has become known as the most exclusive of upmarket holiday destinations. But, as Katerina Roberts discovered, there are plenty of beautiful places for the non-millionaire to stay in.

The French priest's dusty and dented Morris Oxford charged through motley crews of dogs and hysterical chickens. As he spun round corners, we blenched and suffened. We jerked over potholes and clutched at whatever was to hand, "Casse coal tar!" he growled through clenched teeth, and laughed like a hyena. "You know this Creole saying, eh?"

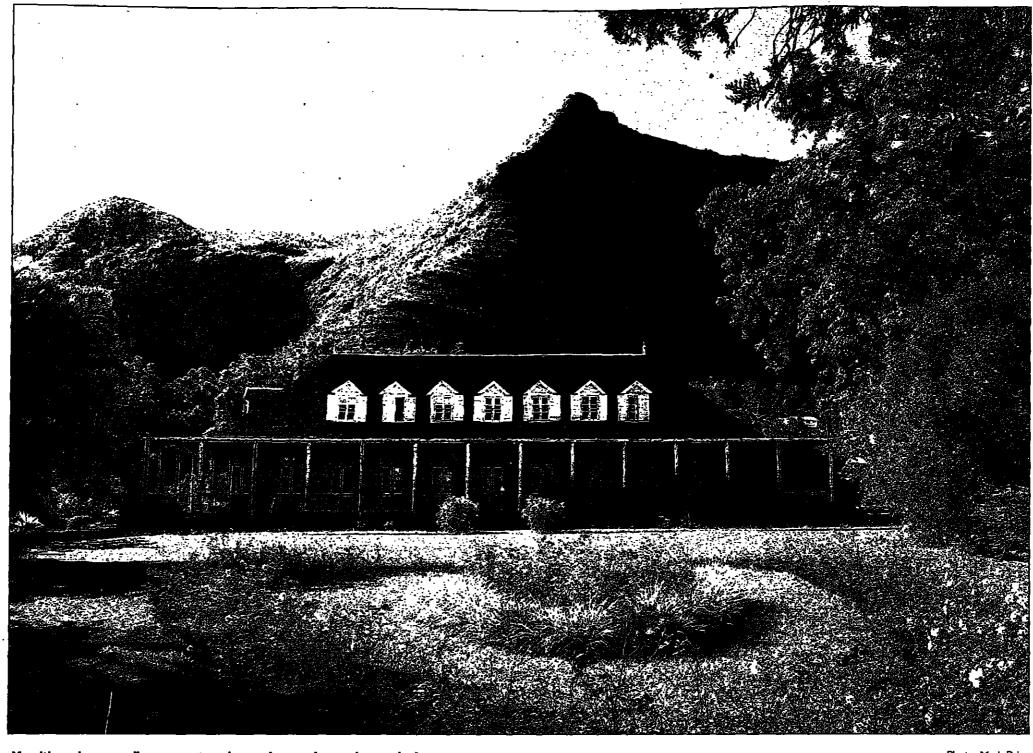
In Mauritius, nearly everyone speaks French, and although the official language is English the lingua franca is Creole. Outrageously colourful, full of double entendre and imagery. Creole is a constantly changing language that confounds not only French linguists, but Mauritians too. "Casse coal tar?" I muttered. Perhaps I had been away too long - each visit enriches my Creole vocabulary, but this particular expression baffled me.

This tiny island in the Indian Ocean, 1,400 miles from the east coast of Africa, has managed to preserve its upmarket image ever since tourism took off in the Seventies. Charter flights are banned and relentless promotions highlight the regal excellence of its hotels, which border blindingly white beaches - and have impeccable service to match. "But," said my Mauritian cousin, "paradise comes at a price unless you know where to look."

And then she put paid to the mystery of casse coal tar. "Casser means to break." she said, "and your priest was probably driving so fast that he was tearing up the surface or 'coal tar' before it had set hard on the roads."

But not all roads in Mauritius are bumpy. Gucci-style globetrotters are met in limousines and whisked along a silkysmooth highway to hedonistic hideaways. If rubbing shoulders with celebrities and stars turns you on, then naturally you have to pay up. But why get charged the earth when you can use the same beaches, the same coral-fringed lagoons and the same restaurants, and stay at places such as Percybere, just a few miles from the island's . most developed resort, Grand Baie, at a fraction of the price?

Here you can rent lovely rooms in leafy shops. lanes, comfortable bungalows and modern



Mauritius: where paradise comes at a price – unless you know where to look

Photo: Mark Pain

apartments in low-rise complexes with swimming-pools. All within a few minutes' stroll of the sea. No wonder Percybere appeals to the free-spirited on a budget, and it's popular with Mauritians, too. Beach bars and unpretentious Creole restaurants dish up specialities such as poulets aux trois merveilles and mind-blowing curries such as vindaye. Best of all, Pereybere's bus service is a godsend for the unpackaged soul, who, for a few rupees, can explore the coast or

visit the capital, Port Louis. Here, supermarkets are well stocked, impersonal and off-puttingly European. For perience, try haggling over the price of pawpaws and pineapples from old boys on bikes, or barter for multicoloured beach wraps and T-shirts at prices well below those of hotel boutiques. Minimalists, meanwhile, can buy anything from loo roll to lychees in higgledy-piggledy, Chinese-run corner

The sun sets early here throughout the improvement plan was introduced to reefs - reminding you that due south lie

Getting there: The only direct flights from Britain are on Air Mauritius (0171-434 4375) from Heathrow and Manchester for £635 plus tax, and British Airways (0345 222111) from Gatwick. Air Mauritius goes non-stop from London, whereas BA refuels at Nairobi.

Numerous companies offer inclusive holidays based on these flights, including Beachcomber (01483 533008), British Airways Holidays (01293 615353) and Hayes & Jarvis (0181-748 5050).

You can also sail from Felixstowe to Mauritius in four weeks, on a cargo vessel, for £2,380 one way. Book through Strand Voyages (0171-836 6363). More information: the Mauritius Government Tourist Office is part of the High Commission at 32 Elvaston Place, London SW7 5NW (0171-584 3666).

the unadulterated Mauritian shopping ex- year, and it makes sense to arrive at your resurface main roads, the driving has got evening destination by 6.30pm. After faster. dark buses are scarce and you may have to rely on taxis, or hire a car at around £40 a day. Hitching may be the only alternative outside tourist areas. But whether you thumb or drive, be warned that Mauritius has one of the highest road accident fig- Now and again powerful rollers pound

One of these new roads hugs much of the southern coast, starting from Bel Ombre, with views of limpid lagoons and deserted beaches on one side and undulating fields of sugar cane on the other. ures in the world, and since a national road against beaches unprotected by coral

the great wastes of the Antarctic.

At Bel Ombre, the only vehicles you are likely to encounter are lumbering lorries bound for the nearby factory. The air is heavy with the heady aroma of molasses. Walking along shaded avenues of coconut trees, scrambling over black volcanic rocks to discover coral caves, or wandering through acres of velvety-green sugar cane fields, is a world away from the maelstrom of the tourist track in the north.

In between walking we waved down buses and bumped along rutted roads uphill through towns and villages to Curepipe, in the centre of the island. Nearby, Plaine Champagne has levely lush forest land and walking trails that lead to magnificent viewpoints such as Trou aux Cerfs and Black Riv-

er Gorge. Pocket-sized mountains pop up from 'gentle landscapes, like natural compasses, silhouetted against swirls of cloud

daubed against a peacock-blue sky.

Mauritians are cultured, humorous and helpful to visitors. They are a mixed bag laden with fat sheaves of sugar cane and of nations. Most of their forefathers came minibuses crammed with cane-cutters from India to work as indentured labourers just after slavery was abolished in 1835, but descendants of settlers from Europe and China, and African slaves, have produced such a diversity of skin colour that it doesn't matter who you are, or where you come from - you are accepted and welcomed as part of the multicultural landscape.

We spent our final days exploring the rugged south coast, with its rolling hills of sugar cane and rocky cliff tops. Picnicking on a grassy headland at the island's most southern point, Gris Oris, reputed to be linked with witchcraft, we could have been forgiven for thinking that Dorset had been misplaced on the map. As we squinted through the glare of a tropical sun across the wilderness of the ocean, no witches came. But then they wouldn't, in this earthly paradise.

Taxing on the runway

From I November, British airport tax doubles. But if you plan carefully you may be able to avoid it. Neil Taylor, managing director of Regent Holidays, offers some advice.

The Yellow Pages in Bristol, like those in most big cities, are full of advertisements from tax experts offering advice on income tax, capital tax and inheritance tax. Surprisingly, none offers advice on Air Passenger Duty (APD), even though two Bristol MPs – first William Waldegrave and now Dawn Primarolo as Chief Secretary to the Treasury - have between them been responsible for this tax. The absence of avoidance advice is particularly surprising since careful planning can reduce travel bills by hundreds of pounds. When APD doubles next Saturday, avoiding or reducing them will be all the more important.

Travellers in South-east England have the easiest solution for short breaks to Europe. They can switch to the train or the coach, which remain untaxed. While a business traveller happy to pay £300 for a fully flexible ticket apply for travel abroad -£5 and has never had a tax.

Paris may not be bothered by a £10 tax additional tax, on tickets costing £60-£70 such a surcharge will be a great boon to the rail and coach companies. Is the Government perhaps trying to subsidise the Channel Tunnel by the

back door? For many trips, however, air travel is the only option. Careful planning for departure, for en route stops and for the return can minimise your liability. For travellers to the US there is now an arrival as well as a departure tax, not to mention an immigration inspection tax and a customs tax. Elsewhere, taxes apply only on departure at the first airport and en-route stops do not usually affect it. Britain's APD has regulations as confusing and as illogical as the Sunday trading laws, which went out just when APD came in.

Within Britain, the tax is paid only once on a round trip, if passengers return to the same air. port, but it is paid twice if they return to a different one. Flying from Glasgow to Heathrow but returning from Garwickattracts two taxes, whereas a Glasgow-Heathrow return attracts only one. Perhaps devolutionists will tackle this. Two rates currently

from London to Edinburgh or to £10. Both will double on 1 No-

In theory the lower rate applies for domestic flights and for ·EU destinations and the higher one for everyone else, but there are many exceptions. A family going skiing in Switzerland next winter must be sure to fly to Basel or Geneva and not to Zurich, since APD will be £20 to Zurich and £10 to the other two airports. Greece and Turkey are traditional rivals for British tourists: should Turkey be penalised with an extra £10 tax because it has not yet been admitted to the EU? The Czech Republic is likely to enter the EU in 2001; until then visitors on direct flights to Prague will pay £20 whereas those willing to travel via Munich will pay only £10. SAS and Austrian Airlines compete in Britain to many European and Asian destinations. How many travellers realise that Austrian taxes apply for transit through Vienna, whereas no taxes apply via Copenhagen and Stockholm? SAS thereby has an advantage of about £7 on every ticket it sells.

Frequent travellers to the Baltic countries now never finish their trips in Riga, which introduced a £17 airport tax this June, but always in Tallinn, which

Regular travellers to the Far East know the definition of "transit" in every single country. A generous definition allows 24 hours without payment of tax.

In Asia, airport taxes are usually paid in cash on departure. convenient for travel agents here who can therefore provide "cheaper" tickets, but bringing a nasty end to a holiday for passengers who are unprepared. Hong Kong used to have one of the highest, around £13, but the return to the motherland has brought it down to £8. When APD was introduced,

an exemption was allowed for aircraft with fewer than 20 seats. Cynics pointed out that the main beneficiaries were owners of executive jets, but one escape route from Britain was left. Suckling Airways operates 18-seater Dornier 228 aircraft from Cambridge to Amsterdam; with connections there to the extensive KLM network, most parts of the world can still be reached taxfree. Until 1950, Cambridge graduates used to get a second vote for one of the university seats in the House of Commons. Should their successors travelling to Amsterdam again enjoy a privilege denied to passengers leaving from Stansted, Norwich

or, ironically, Bristol?

RED CHANNEL

A compendium of hazards facing the traveller. This week warnings about nations around the Baltic.

Latvia: Car theft is rife. Wherever possible, guarded car parks should be used and valuables kept out of sight. Drivers should carry original copies of vehicle registration documents when crossing the border by car.

Winter visitors should seek medical advice about inoculations against influenza and related ailments ~ Foreign Office Travel Advice Unit (0171-238 4503)

Sweden: There have been several racist murders and countless attacks on darkskinned foreigners over the last couple of years, and it pays to be vigilant: keep your eyes and ears open and avoid trouble, especially on Friday and Saturday nights when drink fuels these prejudices - Rough Guide to Sweden'

Estonia: Robbery and violent crime continue to be a problem. Muggings, pickpocketing and car thefts are common and can occur in daylight. Foreigners leaving bars alone or in small groups late at night are a favourite target. There have been several instances of criminals in bars and on trains offering unwary victims drinks laced with a powerful sedative and then robbing them while they sleep - US State Department

GREEN CHANNEL

Nowadays, we're used to recycling. But what about a hotel? Scandic Hotels, the Nordic region's largest hotel group, insists that its 194-room Scandic Hotel Oslo Sjalyst in Norway is in fact 97 per cent recyclable - the world's first. By Sue Wheat

Scandic already has 2,700 "ecorooms" in its 85 hotels across Europe (15 of which are under the Holiday lnn name), but this is the first time a whole hotel has been designed with such environmental tenacity. However, never fear, there

are no horsehair furnishings here. The eco-rooms include parquet floors, Nordic woods and pure wool and cotton furnishings. This is environmental tourism with style. And behind the Nordic flair is a well-thought-out green policy. Use of plastic and metals is kept to a minimum all bathrooms are enamel, not chrome, and taps, showers and toilets conserve water by having slightly reduced flows. Room temperatures are monitored by computer and

energy is conserved when you're not there. Your rubbish bin has three different compartments for paper, organic waste, and metal and plastic. In the gardens you may catch a glimpse of solarpowered lawnmowers; in the restaurant organic food is served; in the laundry, chlorine bleach has been banished.

Scandic says that its ecorooms are always the first to be booked. Research by British Airways Holidays would suggest that such green ideals are not the monopoly of Scandinavians. Caribbean hotels have been given the environmental thumbs-up from BA Holidays and the International Hotels Environmental Initiative.

Of the Caribbean hotels surveyed, 100 had assessed their systems for managing waste, controlling hazardous chemicals and monitoring energy and water use. Just over half - 53 per cent - of BA Holidays' customers said that they would choose an airline or tour operator that took into account environmental issues.

Scandic Hotel Oslo Sjalyst (00 47 2315 5100)



Walking the plank – you'll fall for it

To learn snowboarding, you don't need to go to a mountain, and it doesn't matter that you can't ski. Just embrace your instructor and learn how to fall - yes, it will come in useful - at the Snowdome in Staffordshire.

Skiers frequently wonder why snowboarders don't look where they are going. Often they do so out loud, and sometimes at the tops of their voices.

I have the explanation: it is the way they are trained. I have just had my first snowboarding lesson, and the first thing the instructor said when we got out on the snow was that I should go down the slope backwards. me, to use the technical term

He was adamant that I was not to look where I was going. I didn't go to a glacier for my

lesson. I just followed the tracks of the two children featured in these pages a couple of weeks - to lamworth, in Statiord shire. The "real snow" indoor but I didn't recognise the comslope of its Snowdome centre was the obvious place. After years of skiing, snow-

No poles, no hi-tech boots, no quick-release bindings: just soft shoes, four straps and a plank. Which way you strap yourself on to the plank depends, so the equipment man at the Snowdome told me, on "which foot you used to lead with when you did ice slides in winter on the school playground": my memory is a little misty so I mimed some slides and found that I favoured the left - which made

Nigel Dix, my 25-year-old in-

structor, introduced me to the board and the boot-straps. Then plex manoeuvre he demonstrated - it's not unlike the "brace" position in which you boarding seems pretty crude. are supposed to wait for a plane to crash - and I was sure I wouldn't be able to remember it if I were to fall over. Not "if" but "when", Dix assured me: I was "100 per cent guaranteed to fall over", he said. When he listed the snowboarding injuries he had suffered (nine ribs broken twice, ruptured shoulder muscle, shattered knee cap. broken knuckle), I understood why one pupil who had invested £40 in a one-on-one lesson

announced - so Dix told me -

take", and refused to go out on

he turned to the correct proce- I marched out on to the 150- and keep it moving. dure for falling over. I thought metre slope with him. I had w how to do that, rather taken to Dix, anyway, de- looked behind me, the weight spite his Brummie accent. Which was lucky, because we spent much of the next hour holding hands.

The technique of snowboarding is no more complex than the equipment. As Dix said, "the hard part is in your head; the physical side is easy". Body weight is all you have to So I stared resolutely at the top play with, and the two edges (toe side, and heel side) are the only place on which you can usefully put it. Dix told me to face straightening up at the end of up the slope, keep my back straight, and bend my knees to to a halt. So impressed was Dix put all my weight on the toe with my "toe-edge" performedge. He grasped my hands, and

"regular" rather than "goofy". that he had "made a big mis-doing a soft-shoe shuffle as I slid face down the slope. sideways in a stuttering fashion, viggling my bottom in an effort Being made of sterner stuff, to hold the board on its edge

STEPHEN WOOD

of his shaven head as I edged back and forth across the slope, leaning sideways to move and each traverse to bring the board ance that he took me straight on we danced across the slope, Dix to lesson two, in which I could

We changed places, and in-

stead of raising my heels as if I were wearing stiletto shoes I did an impression of a penguin, dig-Dix assured me that if I ging my heel edge into the snow and letting my toes flap in the air. We held hands for an other dance, this time with Dix others." Perhaps it was just leading. After a while, I went solo: to get up speed on a traverse you have to twist your upper body sideways, and you can't do that when you're holdtold me to take John Travolta in Saturday Night Fever as my role model, and fling out my arm as I leaned forward in the direction of the traverse. It was

embarrassing, but it worked. I had expected snowboarding to be more difficult and more painful. With its gentle the Snowdome is a good place enough to characterise the lat- from 9am to 11pm daily.

credit for my gratifyingly successful début. And presumably being a skier helped? Dix disagreed: "Skiers do come with an understanding of how edges work, but on average they don't

natural talent, then - or begin-

to learn, so I gave it some

ner's luck. OK, I've only clocked up an hour, and I can't turn round without sitting down. I've still ing your partner's hands. Dix got work to do, including on my calf muscles; with all that bending and stretching of the feet they take much more of a ham-

mering than with skiing. And I Snowboarding lessons at Snowmust improve my technique dome (including entrance fee for falling. I did hit the snow a and equipment hire) cost from couple of times, once on the £22.50 per hour for groups, to £40 treacherous rope tow and again

lesson... if only Photograph: Allsport ter as an emergency stop - but pointed out that I had utterly failed to adopt the falling pos-

ition he had shown me at the be-

a mand En

in iso a day

Rie Cover.

High hopes: Stephen

Wood takes to the

slopes after his first

snowboarding

ginning of the lesson. I guess I need a bit more practice at falling. That will come, I suppose, once I get out on the mountains.

for individual tuition. Book when I lost my balance after lessons in advance on 0990 slope and consistent surface skidding to a halt. Dix was kind 000011. The Snowdome is open

winner, Paul

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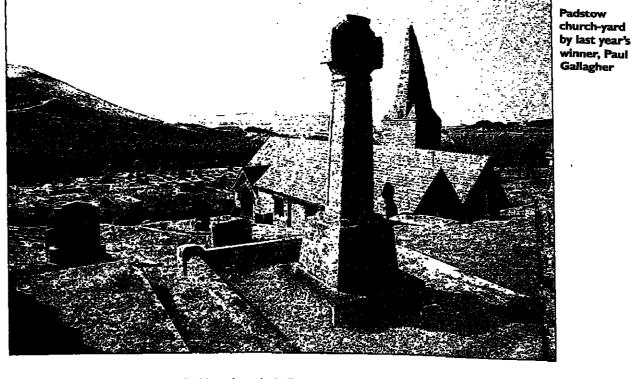
photographer you could win a Nikon F70 SLR and a commission from 'The Independent'.

lf you're an amateur

Each Saturday, our travel pages carry thousands of words designed to inform and inspire the traveller, whether of the armchair or adventurer variety. We also use a few good photographs.

Our belief that there are many excellent amateur photographers among our readers was confirmed last year, when The Independent joined forces with Wanderlust magazine to stage our first Travel Photograph of the Year competition. The quality of the entries was outstanding and choosing an outright winner was difficult. The judges finally awarded Paul Gallagher (whose work appears right) first prize because of the excellence of his composition.

This year we have expanded the competition to four categories: The Natural World. Action, Face-to-Face and Black & White. We have also brought in one of the most famous names in photography: Nikon. the camera of choice for many of the 1996 entrants.



announced. It will earn its tak- a 335 camera bag and Ventile

The top 40 entries will be dis- er valuable prizes, including played at Destinations '98, the one that money can't buy: a travel exhibition to be held at photographic commission from London Olympia from 26 Feb- The Independent. Nikon will ruary to 1 March next year. All provide the winner with an F70 entrants will receive a free pass SLR with 24-120mm AF-D lens for two to the event - at which - worth more than £1,000 the winning photograph will be while Bellingham will provide

photo vest (total value £300-

The three other category winners will each receive a Nikon F50 with 35-80mm lens, plus a Bellingham Photo Hadley bag. Readers with an address in the UK can enter at any time before the end of the year, but take

the first step now by sending in a stamped, addressed envelope for an application form, which includes the competition rules. The address is Wanderlust (Photo of the Year), PO Box 1832, Windsor SL4 6YP. Or complete the form in the current edition of Wanderlust.

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What's an axolotl? Find out at the Secret World

At the Wildlife Rescue Centre near Highbridge in Somerset there are bats. ferrets, donkeys, badgers, and more badgers. Brigid McConville met them on a visit with her sons and their friends.

Never mind the badgers, what the children liked best were the "funny chickens with dangly bits". The dignified bronze turkey, its neck festooned with wobbly scarlet wattles, had them in fits. And so did the rare breed of bantams which lived in a hutch labelled "Polish". These sported bright pom poms on their heads that my gang supposed were for "pol- to help meet the costs of the rescue centre." ishing" things.

But as we went around Secret World it became apparent that the average bunch of boys is pretty much underwhelmed by seeing wild creatures such as badgers and barn owls. "It would he good if there were a death slide or something," said George, aged nine. "It's good, but it's not very exciting," agreed Richard, aged 10.

Far more enthusiastic were the adult visitors, clearly impressed by the wildlife rescue work, by the beautiful 17th-century farmhouse, and by the welcoming café. Small children are in their element, too, what with Tika the (occasionally) talking parrot and a pen full of eel-like ferrets, not to mention calves, piglets, lambs, hedgehogs, donkeys. guinea-pigs. rabbits. ax-

clotts (Mexican salamanders), slow-worms, tropical fish, bats, and bees.

New Road Farm is the home of Pauline and Derek Kidner and their family. Derek opened it to the public in 1984, and it still has the lived-in feel of a working farm, with Derek doing the afternoon milking. But it is Pauline's animal hospital and rescue centre for wild animals – especially badgers – that is the heart of Secret World.

This weekend is "Badger Weekend" at New Road Farm, an annual fun and fundraising extravaganza with ferret-racing, cake stalls, a tombola and other sideshows. Children can have their faces painted as "badgers", and can go for a special walk to meet all the animals that a badger might normally encounter on an evening foray.

Badger cubs aren't born until spring, but during gers, but that he has recently lost three mature oak our visit we saw Glade, an orphaned badger brought up by Pauline, with his two females Nippy and Fox-They slumbered in a warm heap together, three bearcub-sized bundles of earth-brown fur oblivious to our gaze - and to the boys' impolite remarks about badger odour.

Glade first came to the centre after his sett had been dug up, when he was a week old. Nippy arrived after being hit by a car, Foxglove was found wandering at six weeks old, after her mother had been killed on the road. All three are looking for "foster parents"

trees on his land because of setts that have been dug under their roots. Badgers also make a terrible mess glove, in their glass-backed underground chamber. of the maize he grows for the cows; the only remedy - electric fencing - is an expensive one.

In our village, too, some 10 miles from Pauline's rescue centre, children's pet rabbits and guineapigs were eaten last summer by hungry badgers, unable during the dry weather to find the 200 earthworms they need each day. We lost a henhouse full of poultry - the badger simply clawed his way through the slatted floor - while my neighbour lost three lots of chickens, their nest boxes ripped off their hinges.

Badgers, unfortunately, are not good at PR. During the same dry spell, many irate garden-lovers found their carefully watered lawns havens for earthworms - in ribbons every morning, shredded by those powerful, digging forelegs.
Pauline is well aware of local hos-

tility to badgers; after all, her husband is a farmer. "The law tells farmers what they can and can't do, so they get very cross. But they can apply for a licence to shut the sett down if they spot a problem developing. Often, foraging areas are taken for development and badgers resort to gardens for food."

As for the common perception that badgers can spread TB to cows, "so can cats, foxes, deer, rats and moles," she says. We all want healthy wildlife and livestock in our countryside, she argues, but rather than the annual official badger cull (2,500 are killed at a cost of £3,000 a head) she advocates

blood-testing and vaccination of cows. At Secret World Pauline makes sure that all badgers are healthy before being released into the wild, and this weekend members of Somerset's badger

groups will be at New Road Farm to give talks and discuss these issues. And there has been a happy ending to the story of Lady, the badger rescued from baiters. She turned out to be pregnant and, after giving birth to three cubs, was released back to the wild with her

new family. In a reversal of their fortunes, the lorry driver was convicted of badger cruelty and went to prison for four months.

bridge, Somerset (01278 783250). Open daily 10am-6pm (or dusk if earlier). Closed 25 and 26 December. Family ticket £13; adults £4.25; children £2.95; OAPs £3.75; reduced rates November-March. 'Foster' a badger for £24.95, receiving Pauline Kidner's video 'Badgers In My Secret World, New Road Farm, East Huntspill, High- Kitchen', a certificate and a six-monthly update.

Wild things: once they have recovered, most animals at Secret World are released back into their natural habitat

Photographs: John Voos



One recent arrival was a badger called Lady who was found trussed up in the back of a lorry in Co Durham, destined for illegal badger baiting, probably in Wales or the north of England. "An estimated 10,000 badgers are killed every year by digging and baiting," explains Pauline, who says badgers fetch from £500 to £1,000 a head for this cruel sport.

First the badger's jaw or front leg is broken to put it at a disadvantage; then it is placed in a metal-lined pit with dogs. The organisers make big money from betting on the bloody outcome.

Although stories like these win public sympathy. the growing badger population is unpopular with many people in the West Country. When I took the boys home, I spoke to George's father, a farmer in the Quantock Hills. He told me that he likes bad-

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740 291) This park has brought the wilds of Africa to Britain. Colonies of lemurs play among the trees on their own islands. Indeed, there are plenty of animals from Africa throughout the park such as African lions, cheetahs, and zebras. The park also has the only aardvarks in the country. Take the children on a free safari road train, on explorer trails, and to the bouncy eastle. You can also see the animals' daily feeding. Park opens daily 10am. Admission: adults £5.50, children £3.50,

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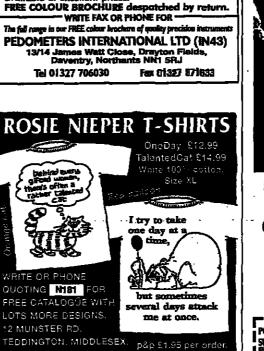
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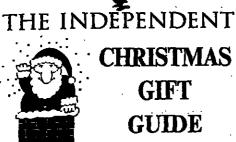


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The Christmas advertising section appears in both the Independent and Independent on Sunday on the following Saturdays and October 25th-26th

November 1st-2nd, 8th-9th, 15th-16th, 22nd-23rd, 29th-30th December 6th-7th

We not only offer special discounts - up to 25% for 14 insertions - but also our Christmas Competition encourages our readers to study the advertisements closely. To find out more and to book your space.



Christmas Gift Guide Team 0171 293 2323 0171 293 2344 Source: NRS July 96-June 97





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How to Enter

There are five questions, numbered one to five, hidden amongst the Christmas Gift. Guide advertisements. Once you have found them, you must find the answers. These are located within the advertisements. Send your answers, together with your name, address and daytime telephone number on a postcard

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Closing date for Competition No. 1 is Thursday 30th October 1997



A good workman claims his tools

Living among the architectural glories of Bath is a man who collects and painstakingly reproduces antique gardening paraphernalia.

"Sheffield made, haft and blade" sings an advertisement for Hardy's spades, pasted into the front of Beeton's Shilling Gardening - published around the turn of the century, when the craft of gardening was at its peak. Thirty-five different kinds of spade were made by British manufacturers such as Hardy's and CT Skelton, also of Sheffield.

Skelton, I learnt from David Bridgwater, who specialises in selling what he calls "horticultural paraphernalia". was the Rolls-Royce of tool manufacturers. If you have a Skelton spade, you can wield it with pride. Unfortunately, I haven't, but I do have an old Skelton fern trowel, a 7-in blade of forged steel an inch-and-a-half wide, fixed with brass rivets to a wooden handle. It's one of my favourite tools, perfect for bulb planting.

Mr Bridgwater is a dangerous man. That has nothing to do with the collection of beautiful 18th-century pruning knives that he has been amassing over the last couple of years. It's because he talks so passionately about things such as his Dubois patent flower gatherer of 1913, his droopsnout watering-can (19th-century English. made from copper) and his Barrow's patent pruner of about 1913, that you feel that life cannot be worth living until you, too, have in your hand a thistle-headed daisy spud or a hand- man's tool", the sort of thing a Vicforged hoe by Yardley of Stourbridge, torian dilettante might amuse himself as used by the fussiest Edwardian head ANNA PAVORD

gardeners. Some of his

treasures were once on sale at Clifton's ble is," he said, turning the raspber-Now, if you want to persuade him to sell you something you have to seek him out on the northern outskirts of long, rutted track with a view, as my American buddy says, "to die for".

For a while, he worked in Bath, dealing in architectural antiques. Then, for the first time in his life, he found himself in a house with a garden. Preferring, always, the old to the new, he looked round for a spade and a fork to use. The spade he acquired happened to be a Skelton, a beautiful thing with a long handle and flat treads on the top of the blade, so that you don't cut the soles of your boots when you are digging.

That set him off. Finding out about old things is an essential part of dealing in them, and his office is now thick with piles of old catalogues, copies of patents and advertisements, which help him to date the tools he collects and track down details of the firms that made them.

Some are exceedingly esoteric.



Asparagus knives with curious, saw-like edges have come back into fashion again. But who now uses raspberrycane cutters? Mr Bridgwater has got one, which he describes as a "gentlewith on a

Sunday morn-"The trou-

Nursery in London's Little Venice. ry-cane cutter over to reveal the beautiful grain of the wooden handle, "if I get into something, I really get into it". So that's why whole families of Bath, where he lives at the end of a gleaming 19th-century billhooks are lined up in his workshop, why he does not blink at paying thousands of pounds for a rare watering-can, and why he is one of the few people in England who can show you exactly how a 19th-century patented dock-eradicator works. (Imagine a huge ball-point pen on the end of a stick. You press down the point, and a precise amount of poison is delivered straight into the heart of the dock. It's very satisfying.)

> Was there a living to be made dealing in these kinds of things, I asked? 'Not a sensible one," he replied. "But it's irresistible. It's the skill in the making that I appreciate."

> "This is cast." he continued disapprovingly, picking up what seemed to be a perfectly good trowel, made by Gaynor of Sheffield. How could be tell, I wondered? "Oh! you know. Just the

> smoothness, the regularity of it." Texture was what distinguished

AN AGRIFRAMES SPECIAL OFFER FOR NOVEMBER



Dug out: David Bridgwater and tools

proper old glass bell cloches from ham around 1900. The elegantly modern middle-European copies, he explained. The old cloches were unevenly made, with patches of thick and thin glass. The new ones are more uniform and the glass has a slightly frosty appearance compared with the clarity of the old ones. Old bell cloches rarely have the glass knob at the top intact.

for, said the encyclopaedic Mr Bridgwater. Brade, like Skelton, specialised beautiful, long-handled daisy-grubber of forged steel, made in Birming-

Gardeners generally knocked them off

because the knob had the effect of con-

And what sort of prices do you have to pay for this stuff, I wondered? £65 for a beautiful, long-handled Skelton bulb planter, £70 for a hand-forged Victorian line-spinner, £75 for a decent spade made by Skelton or Brade. "If you can find them," added Mr Bridgwater gloomily.

The increasing difficulty in picking up good old things is what led him into the business of reproductions. His first venture is the Paxton watering-can, a copy of the one he saw a few years ago in a Cotswold antiques shop. He didn't buy it at the time, but telephoned a few days later to say he wanted it, only to be told that it had already gone to someone else. It has haunted him ever since.

The can was made until the end of the 19th century from an original design by Joseph Paxton, the prodigious head gardener in charge at Chatsworth, Derbyshire, in the early Victorian era. The Bridgwater copy is made from hot dipped galvanised men chose tools with D rather than T iron by, he says, "the last tinsmiths in handles, tools such as Brades Spring Birmingham". It is an elegant, oval shape, with a long spout, and comes in two sizes, two-and-a-half gallons (£69) and one gallon (£59). Tools made after 1916 are usually

I hope my husband is reading this, because I want one for my birthday.

centrating the rays of the sun and burn- Sheffield stamp was recognised as the You can find David Bridgwater (if ing the plants sheltering underneath. mark of quality. That's why a pair of you're lucky) at Heather Cottage, Lans-Brade is the other name to look out shears made at the turn of the centu- down, Bath B.41 9BL (01225 463435). For a detailed pictorial history of garry will still cut as well as a brand-new pair. And why a spade that may have den tools, decorative containers, garden in high-quality hand tools, such as their been used every week for the past 100 structures, furniture etc, get hold of a copy of 'Antiques from the Garden' by Alistair Morris (Garden Art Press, £25).

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CUTTINGS

Raymond Cooper writes from Shaftesbury in Dorset. wanting to know where he can buy 'Edzell Blue' potatoes. They are knobbly, roughly

oval potatoes with a purplishblue skin, second earlies (known since 1890) and particularly good for roasting. They are available from Mrs M MacLean, Dornock Farm, Crieff, Perthshire PH7 3QN (01764 652472), Edwin Tucker & Sons Ltd, Brewery Meadow, Stonepark. Ashburton, Newton Abbott, Devon TQ13 7DG (01364 652403), and Websters Seed Potatoes, Unit 16, Ogilvy Place, Arbroath, Tayside DD11 4DE (01241 871789).

Caroline Boisset has wowed London's gardeners over the last few years with her huge, glowing displays of pumpkins and squashes. shown at the Royal Horticultural Society's autumn shows. Now she has written a book, Pumpkins and Squashes (Mitchell Beazley, £14,99) which tells you not only how to grow them, but how to cook them, too.

She also gives information on drying and preserving ornamental gourds and includes an invaluable

directory, with details of the differences between varieties. Do you know the difference between a 'Green Hubbard' and a 'Queensland Blue'? Caroline Boisset has the

Last chance to catch the Chelsea Crafts Fair, held at the Chelsea Old Town Hall, King's Road, London SW3, which ends tomorrow. Gardeners should look out for Cleo Mussi's fountains and figures, wall panels and tiles, made from kiln-fired mosaic. Mark de la Torre's pots, made from red Staffordshire clay, were inspired by the forms of his own collection of cacti. Rupert Blamire's urns with lids featured in the Evening Standard's garden at the Chelsea Flower Show earlier this year. When the summer display of annuals is over, you put the lid on the urn and pretend it was an ornament all the time. Also on show is furniture made by David Colwell, Antonis Cardew and Charlotte Harvey, all suitable for use out of doors. The fair is open today and tomorrow (10am-6pm), admission £5.

Anna Pavord

WEEKEND WORK

Vegetable gardens need a good clean-out at this time of the year, removing runner beans (and shelling any driedoff pods for seed), clearing out French beans (and shelling any overgrown pods for haricots). Overblown lettuces should also go on the compost heap, together with the rotting leaves that tend to lie round parsnips and celeriac. Celeriac roots hump out of the ground as they grow and you need to clean off old leaves regularly, leaving just the ones that are

Start to spread muck over cleared ground in the vegetable garden. This prevents annual weeds from germinating and protects the soil from rain splash. Digging it in is a job that you can spread out over the rest of the winter.

growing upright.

Transplant self-seeded biennials and perennials that have put themselves in the wrong places. Seedlings of aquilegia, verbascum and foxgloves can all be shifted now. Fill in the spaces

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between with masses of bulbs. A trowel is a better planting tool for bulbs than a dibber. which has too pointed an end - there is a danger your bulb will be left hanging in space underground, with nothing to get its roots into.

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Check growths of all climbers and wall shrubs, tying in whippy growths where necessary to save them lashing about. This applies particularly to shrubs such as fast-growing ceanothus, which is very brittle, and to the pale-flowered Solanum jasminoides which continues to grow and flower until the first frosts.

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Who's eating all the fish?

Where have all the sea trout gone? Ask the disgruntled fishermen, and they all give the same answer: 'Killed by sea lice, every one'. And what produces a lethal concentration of sea lice in estuaries and sea lochs? 'Salmon farms,' they reply.

It is now nearly nine years since sea trout all but disappeared from the mid-west of Ireland, and a lucrative rural industry suddenly collapsed. Later, similar declines set in on the west coast of Scotland and in Norwegian rivers. Experts seeking to defend salmon farms pointed out that sea trout catches had been falling since the Fifties - 30 years before the first farms were established - and suggested other possible causes, not least acidification of rivers, brought about by careless planting of conifers which collect toxic substances from the atmosphere.

Yet now, after numerous investigations, famous Irish owners are convinced that they know beautiful what is happening. They believe that smolts second-year sea trout, hatched in rivers are healthy enough when they migrate down into the estuaries; but there, within days, they become infested with sea lice. These are so numerous that they literally eat the young trout alive: grazing all along their backs, they strip off the protective layer of mucus, and then the skin, until nothing remains of the dorsal fin but three bony spikes.

Finally they bore into the back of the head. Some fish turn tail within a few days and return to the river, presumably because they know instinctively that fresh water will kill the lice. The trouble is, there is no food for them in the river - which is why they migrated out to sea in the first place. They may have a second or third try at getting out, but in the end they die, either directly

DUFF HART-DAVIS

infections brought on by the removal of their

This process is now clearly understood - and the phenomenon of prematurelyreturning, lice-infested sea trout has been found only in areas where there are marine salmon cages. It is also well known that salmon farms are besieged by sea lice, and ever-changing variety of chemicals to keep

that the lice which are killing trout derive to that adopted by the Norwegians, who have river, and do they somehow confuse their from the farms – yet it seems that if cages containing hundreds of thou- within 20 kilometres of rivers holding wild tuary is bound to increase.

attempt to solve the problem, fishery owners and farmers became polarised in separate camps, and bitter arguments raged. In 1995, goaded by the general refusal to admit responsibility, a group of owners on the west coast launched a major lawsuit against the Irish government and 10 salmon farming companies.

Their case against the state was (and is) that the government has allowed the farmers too much latitude, and failed to exercise its statutory responsibility to protect wild fish. The farmers are being sued for causing a nuisance, polluting the estuaries, and breaching the fishermen's constitutional right to make a living.

After preliminary hearings, the lawsuit has now reached the discovery stage, which and is due to be heard in the High Court in Dublin next year. Leading the charge is Peter Mantle, owner of the Delphi fishery on the coast of Co Mayo. This small but

gians have discovered that out-going salmon smolts *do* col-

around salmon cages.

year before returning to their native river

to spawn. It is thus, in theory, less likely that

they pick up lethal doses of sea lice from

across the mouths of fjords the Norwe-

Nevertheless, by setting fine-mesh nets

In Ireland, rather than join forces in an fect of the farms on wild salmon, which have Scotland, has recommended establishing a also declined sharply on much of the west new, independent body to regulate all fish coast of Scotland. Here the picture is less farming. Angling organisations are extremely clear, because the habits of salmon and sea keen that such a body should come into betrout are different: whereas young trout reing: the Salmon & Trout Association, under main in shallow water around the coast, its director Chris Poupard, has been lobbysalmon smolts head straight out into the ing intensively to have one set up, but so far ocean and stay in deep water for at least a has met with a "very negative" response.

The last government took the farmers' side," says Mr Poupard. "They agreed that the farms may cause a problem,

Under threat: sea trout numbers are dwindling. The annual catch of one fishery in Ireland used to be 1,500 but is now 100.



from physical damage, or from secondary protective laver.

that managers struggle ceaselessly with an the parasites under control.

used to yield an aver-

age of 1,500 sea trout a year, but, after a bumper season in 1985, annual catches plunged to about 100. Since the settlement of another lawsuit, Mr Mantle is temporarily bound not to speak to the press - but his views are widely known.

The Irish fishery owners are not suing for money. Their aim, rather, is to restore their let out 50,000 salmon. From traces of the rivers, and make the court do what their government has failed to do - create a regime which ensures that salmon farms stop polluting the estuaries. Because sea lice are notoriously difficult to control, and quickly become resistant to new chemicals, the only of years? Do the offspring of farmed fish What nobody has been able to prove is long-term solution may be a policy similar lack the ability to find their way back to a stimulated that no new farm may be sited, wild cousins!

the presump-

tion must be that huge numbers of them are being eaten to death at sea. Another problem is that of escapes or deliberate releases. In August, for instance, somebody cut the cages of a farm in Loch Torridon and artificial colouring used in farm feed, it has aiready been established that tame salmon go up rivers and spawn in the same redds (gravel beds) as wild fish. What effect does this have on instincts evolved over thousands

sands of salmon are infested with parasites, fish. The Irish owners tersely point out that Scotland have been granted by the Crown the general level of lice in sea loch or es whereas rivers cannot be moved, cages can. Estate, but now a report on strategy, prepared Part of the debate now is about the ef- by Lord Nixon for the Secretary of State for glimmer of hope on the horizon."

complex factors were involved. We don't agree. We believe the central issue is sea lice."

There has been one bit of good news for the fishermen. Until now the east coast of Scotland has remained almost entirely free of farms, and the Crown Estate recently rejected an application to expand a small unit in the Cromarty Firth into a major enterprise producing 2,000 tons of salmon a year. We objected to the proposal like crazy," says Mr Poupard, "because it would have affected a large number of east coast rivers. The significant thing is that one of the Crown ite's reasons for refusing was the pos-In the past, licences for salmon farms in sible impact on wild fishery interests. It's the first time they have ever acknowledged this in turning down an application. There's a

NATURE NOTE

With the harvest gone from the fields, and supplies of wild food dwindling in woods and hedges, rats have withdrawn into barns. Thoroughly unwelcome lodgers they are, too, for they carry unpleasant diseases such as leptospirosis, and their destructive capacity is astonishing. Not only do they chew their way into sacks of corn or potatoes; they also gnaw through wood and even burrow through the interstices of stonework. Once established under the floor or in the roof of a building, they are very hard to shift. They are also inveterate egg-stealers. They certainly roll chickens' eggs along the floor by pushing with their noses, to eat them in a place of safety. But do they carry eggs as well? Old country characters tell how one rat lies on its back, cradling the egg in all four legs, while another drags the live trolley off by the tail. True or false? I am never sure - but not for nothing do humans use the phrase "rat-like cunning".

Global warming is feathering the nests

Good news this week from the Wildlife Trusts: little egrets are breeding in Britain. Daniel Butler examines the implications.

111

The little egret, a white, heronlike bird originally from the rarest visitors until 1988 when small flocks began to be reported. Last year the first pair this year five pairs successfully reared 12 young.

The little egrets are not alone: several species, whether previously unknown or regarded as rare migrants, are now firmly established on our list of pairs in the Fifties). breeding birds. Cetti's warbler began breeding in Hampshire and the West Country in the Sixties. Although this small, drab lover of damp scrub is usually found only in southern Europe, today there are probably around 500 pairs in this country. What makes this all the more remarkable is that, unlike all but one of our remaining warblers, it overwinters here.

all, however, is that of the collared dove. Until the Thirties the Europe are beginning to breed

nearest population was in the Balkans, but over the next 20 years numbers moved westwards, with the first British nest reported in 1955. Now this pigeon is widespread across almost all of England and lowland Scotland.

Elsewhere, previously scarce birds have notched up marked successes. Best known is the os-Mediterranean, was one of our prey, exterminated in the last century, which began to breed here again in the Fifties and now numbers almost 100 pairs. The nested in Poole Harbour, and hobby - a small, migratory falcon - is less familiar, but its numbers have risen from about 60 pairs in the Fifties to between 500 and 900 pairs today, while there are more than 100 pairs of marsh harriers (down to two

So why the sudden attraction of Britain? Global warming is the obvious answer, according to Chris Meade, who orchestrates the British Trust for Ornithology's authoritative census: "This could well be advance warning of climate change," he says sombrely. "Nature can be incredibly sensitive to even the slightest variations in temperature and rainfall." To back his The greatest success story of case, he points out that records indicate that many birds across

up to a month earlier than they did 50 years ago. The reason is that higher temperatures mean more food -and, in particular, insects - during the critical early weeks of the breeding season. Sure enough, the boom in new bird species has

(first recorded here in 1988) and the yellow-winged darter (a southern European dragonfly. first recorded in 1995).

Changing land use is also responsible for some improvements. Although modernisation of agriculture has undoubtedbeen echoed among inverte- ly resulted in a drastic decline helped the hobby: "Although brates such as the median wasp in pasture-loving skylarks and hobbies live mainly on insects land, none of them appears to in 1978. Today there are probably

grey partridges, where there are such as dragonflies, which do losers there are also winners. One clear beneficiary is the col- their increase may well be to do lared dove, which has used the recent shift to cereals to colonise farmyards where it

feeds on spilt grain. Other land changes have

better with warmer weather, with the construction industry, which has led to more gravel pits and hence more huntinggrounds," says Meade.

But although all these factors may be at work in southern Eng-north, first breeding in Caithness

explain the sudden arrival of northern visitors such as the Lapland bunting, formerly regarded as an occasional winter migrant fleeing particularly hard Arctic weather.

The purple sandpiper is another recent arrival from the

half-a-dozen pairs, but Scotland has plenty of potentially suitable

habitats, and bird-watchers

throughout the country are

hopeful that they will soon be-

Born in Britain: this year

five pairs of little egrets have successfully reared 12

young in this country Photograph: Ardea

come firmly established. "Global warming doesn't necessarily mean higher temperatures across the whole of Britain," counters Meade. He goes on to explain that many scientists believe that as Antarctica thaws, the meltwater could shift the Gulf Stream westwards. At the moment this keeps Scotland warmer than similar latitudes elsewhere

Nonetheless, Meade admits that rising mercury cannot be the whole answer. He says improved counting methods are leading to more reports of rarities. Also, raptors have undoubtedly benefited from a change in attitudes among gamekeepers, while all birds have been helped by legal protection and a decline in egg-collecting and taxidermy.

In spite of this, he believes that global warming is by far the most important factor. Assuming he is right, it should serve to remind us that whereas climate change has terrifying implications for man, many wild creatures will undoubtedly benefit.



he tous

Just keep your eye on the bishop's hat

A historic path links the cathedral cities of Winchester and Salisbury. Mark Rowe makes a pilgrim's progress along the 27-mile Clarendon Way.

It is possibly Britain's least trodden shortdistance path, yet the Clarendon Way links two of England's most picturesque cathedral cities and gives classic views of rolling countryside. The walk gets its name from Clarendon Palace, a medieval seat of power three miles outside Salisbury where, in an early skirmish in the battle between crown years later - was present at the meeting.

The route starts at Winchester cathedral and finishes in the delightful grounds of its to open fields before climbing abruptly up

counterpart in Salisbury. From cathedral door to cathedral door is 27 miles but progress is not physically demanding: apart from one or two short, sharp climbs, the Way lumbers gently over downs with little it has terrestrial, though curious, origins, puff required. Nevertheless, it is best negotiated over two days, with a range of excellent pubs and B&Bs available en route.

In Winchester we started by inspecting the shrine of St Swithin in the 11th-century cathedral. (Legend has it that if it rains on St Swithin's day. 15 July, it will rain for 40 days more). After a march up Winchester town centre past the hospital, we turned right into Kilim Lane and were almost immedi-1164. Henry II hosted a council that sparked ately in the country, walking past a golf course, then a stud farm, following the route and church. Thomas Becket - killed just six symbol of a bishop's hat. After two hours we came to Farley Mount country park.

The path dives into woods and out on

to Beacon Hill, at 174m the highest point of the route. Here we came across a triangular monument bizarre enough to agitate the imagination of an X Files addict: marking the burial place of a horse that in 1733 tumbled 25 feet into a local quarry. Both horse and rider survived to win a race the following year, while carrying the name Beware Chalk Pit. The monument gives fine views in all directions; Winchester is already five miles east, tucked away in the valley behind the country park.

The path then drops swiftly, giving farreaching views of ploughed fields, farmhouses, sheep, pigs, and trees huddled together on gentle hills. A short stretch goes through a horse-jumping field. After four hours you come to the village of King's Somborne, where welcome drinks can be

There are two paths out of King's Somborne, which both pick up the Clarendon Way: we unwittingly chose the least used one, fighting our way through brambles. Soon we crossed the River Test, where "Private Fishing" notices met our every turn. We then passed from trout to trotters, walking by pig battery farms. Plaintive squealing from the huts was, I am ashamed to say, not enough to strike bacon from the next day's full English breakfast.

The Clarendon Way then dropped down off the brow of a hill, crossed a ford at Wallop brook and led us into Broughton, a pretty village of half-timbered cottages and Georgian brick houses, where we spent the night. The food and local drink at the Tally Ho pub are superb; do not miss the circular medieval dovecote in the churchyard of St Mary's, where pigeons were bred in the downed in the friendly Andover Arms. 14th century as a major source of food.

The next day's walk is straightforward though you must keep a sharp eye out for the bishop's mitre sign on the short climb out of Broughton: if you pass the reservoir to your right rather than on your left you will go seriously astray. At Buckholt Farm we picked up the old Roman way and made fast progress to the village of Middle Winterslow, where again you must hunt around for the route waymarkings. At the village of Pitton we plunged into the dense woods of the Clarendon estate. After a couple of miles of conifers we arrived at Clarendon Palace - an overgrown wall is all that remains of a royal hunting-lodge for Norman

kings and a mansion for the Plantagenets. We emerged from the woods to see the spire of Salisbury cathedral poking above the small hills. It takes an bour from the first sight of the cathedral to reach its doors, where we were faced with an agony of in-

decision: should we flake out in the grounds of the cathedral, or visit the Cross Keys tea shop? Unable to choose, we did both, and recommend you to do the same.

A one-way train ticket from Salisbury to Winchester costs £8.40. Buses between the cities do not run on Sundays in winter. If driving, park in Kilim Lane in Winchester as longterm parking in the town centre is difficult and expensive; this cuts 1.5 miles off the route, The walk is outlined in Lonely Planet's Walking in Britain'; sketch map and route details also from Winchester Tourist Information (01962 840500). B&Bs in Broughton and King's Somborne can be booked from Winchester. Salisbury Tourist Information Centre (01722 334956) is also helpful. Maps: OS maps 184 and 185 are recommended to cope with poor waymarking from

GAMES

BAWN O'BEIRNE RANELAGH DON'T JUNK IT - USE IT

Only one pair of pliers, two corks and three wire coat-hangers are needed for this week's piece of recycled junk. Here, in good time for Halloween o bonfire night, is how to make a

toasting fork. 1. Take your three coathangers and cut off the questionmark shaped

hooks to leave three

pieces that may be straightened easily. Straighten them easily. 3. Put one of the straight pieces aside and make two right-angled bends in each of the others, one about three

inches from the end, the other about two inches further down. They will be the two outer prongs 4. Cut the third, straight wire to the

same length as the two bent ones. 5. Use fuse wire to tie them all together in the desired fork shape.

6. For the handle, use two champagne corks with a hole drilled through them lengthwise. Thread the corks

onto the handle. You now have the perfect implement for making toast, roasting marshmallows, or scaring trick-or-

treaters away from the door.

GAME OF THE WEEK WILLIAM HARTSTON

One important criterion for assessing the merit of any family game is the simplicity of its rules. One really does not want to have to fight through pages of instructions before starting. By that standard, Game" from Upstarts! did not look promising. The rules occupied two sides, printed small on an A4-sized sheet. But they are clearly-written, not too difficult to grasp, and well worth the effort.

The format of the game is a horse-race in which each player (from two to six) moves his horse round a track according to the throws of a dice. So far, it's ludo. but what gives the Really Nasty Horse Racing Game its edge is the penalty cards which you can play against other players' horses - or your own, if you want to - and the opportunity to bet on the result of

each race, bets may be placed either on your own horse, or on that of one other player.

Players may select which horse from their stable runs in each race, a dice throw determines which lane both those f combine to determine the odds offered on the horse. "Be as nasty as possible to your

fellow players" it says in the rules, and that's what makes it such fun. My nasty children loved knocking each other's horses out of the race. James - going for death or glory always bet on his own horse; Nicholas - the aleatorically advantaged one - won most of the races; and - best of all - I ended up with most money, because I generally had the good sense to bet on Nicholas's horse.

The Really Nasty Horse Racing Game, £29.99 from Upstarts!

PANDORA MELLY GAMES PEOPLE PLAY

Charles Saumarez Smith, 43. director of the National Portrait Gallery, London

My mother liked us to enter the mothers-andsons' race, which was an important fixture at the school sports day. I can't remember if we extremely athletic, having won a Cambridge blue in both hockey and tennis, so we were always expected to win. She was immensely proud that we won when she was 50, and she

was able to go into honourable retirement. I was brought up to play all sorts of competitive games. The worst was called Billiard Fives, a lethal game played by large numbers of people on a full-sized billiard table. You take turns in hurling the ball at the cushion at the far end, then you run around the table and are out if the ball is allowed to touch the near cushion. It ends when there are only two people left.

I wasn't tremendously good at games. I played in the teams at prep school, but let the side down in cricket. I was made wicket

keeper because I was so bad at throwing, and was opening bat at a match when we were all out for three. I don't think we won at all when I was in the First Eleven, which was embarrassing. When I went to Mariborough, I gave up almost all competitive games, because the time. I was too short.

Broughton to Salisbury.

I run round Canary Wharf occasionally, and recently I went on a long walk with two friends along Offa's Dyke. We started at Chepstow on the day after the election and arrived at Knighton four days and 80 miles later. After the first day I was completely exhausted, but by the third day, I was able to walk from Lianthony Abbey over the Black Mountains to Hay-on-Wye, arriving in time for

As part of the forthcoming millennium celebrations, the National Portrait Gallery, in conjunction with the Sports Ministry, is planning an exhibition on the development of sport in Britain, including portraits of every sporting hero of the 20th century.

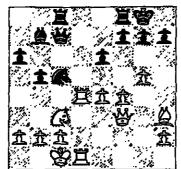
CHESS: WILLIAM HARTSTON

Apart from leading the London Grandmasters event in Hampstead after six rounds, Neil McDonald also has the more dubious distinction of having lost the best game of the event so far.

In the old main line of the Najdorf Sicilian, before everyone started hunting down poisoned pawns with 7 ... Qb6, players used automatically to rattle out the first ten moves of this game, then continue 11.Bxf6 Nxf6 12.g5 Nd7. Rowson's choice of 11... Bxf6!? is an extraordinary idea offering White the choice of two attractive continuations. First, there must be a strong temptation to give up a piece for three pawns with 13.Bxb5 axb5 14.Ndxb5 Qb8 15.Nxd6+ Ke7, though the activity of the bishop on f6 and rook on a8 give Black undeniable counterplay.

McDonald chose what he probably thought was a simpler path with 12.25 inviting Black back into the main line with 12...Be7. Rowson, however, surprised him exchanging his bishop for the knight on d4 and abandoning his d6-pawn. The point became clear after 16 ... Nc5 (threatening both Nxe4 and b4) 17.Rd4 (see diagram) when Black regained his pawn with the neat 17 ... Nxe4!

White cannot capture with his knight because of mate on c2, and 18.Rxe4 b4! left both the knight on c3 and rook on e4 helplessly rooted to their spots. Black's 20 ... Be4! gave added value, since 21.Rxe4 loses to 21 ... Qb7 22.Rde1 Qxb2+ 23.Kd1 Qb1+ 24.Ke2 Qxc2+ 25.Kf1 Qxf2+ 26.Kxf2 c2.



As the game went, White was always struggling, but he almost rejoined the game with a nice temporary queen sacrifice. His hopes, however, were squashed by the accurate 38 ... Bc4!

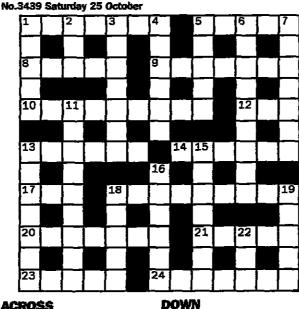
White: Neil McDonald Black: Jonathan Rowson Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5	24 Ra4 Rfd8
2 Nf3 d6	25 Qe3 Rxd3
3 d4 Nf6	26 Qxd3 Bh5
4 Nc3 cxd4	27 Bg2 e5
5 Nxd4 a6	28 Qh3 Qc5
6 Bg5 e6	29 Qxc8+ Qxc
7 f4 Be7	30 Rxa5 exf4
8 QB Qc7	31 Ra8 Qxa8
9 0-0-0 Nbd7	32 Bxa8 Be2
10 g4 b5	33 a4 f3
11 Bxf6 Bxf6	34 b4 f2
12 g5 Bxd4	35 Bg2 Kf8
13 Rxd4 Bb7	36 b5 f1=Q+
14 Bh3 0-0	37 Bxf1 Bxf1
15 Rhd1 Rac8	38 Kb1 Bc4
16 Rxd6 Nc5	39 b6 Ba6
17 R6d4 Nxe4	40 Ka2 Ke7
18 Rxe4 b4	41 Kb3 Kd6
19 Of2 bxc3	42 Kb4 Kc6
20 Rb4 Be4	43 a5 f5

44 gxf6 gxf6

21 b3 Qe7

CONCISE CROSSWORD



ACROSS

Ra4 Rfd8	Aditoos	
5 Qe3 Rxd3	1 Perception (7)	1 Drive (5)
6 Qxd3 Bh5	5 Intended (5)	2 Body of water (3)
7 Bg2 e5	8 Public square (5)	3 Language text-book (7)
8 Qh3 Qc5	9 Lasting (7)	4 Monotony (6)
	10 Boaster (9)	5 Wetland (5)
Qxc8+Qxc8	12 Involuntary twitch (3)	6 Seabird (9)
) Rxa5 exf4	13 Of present or recent date	7 Sweet substance (7)
i Ras Qxas	(6)	11 First application of paint
2 Bxa8 Be2	14 Object to (6)	(9)
3 a4 £3	17 And not (3)	13 Threatened (7)
1 b4 f2	18 Agreed view (9)	15 Exact (7)
5 Bg2 Kf8	20 Balkan country (7)	16 Young child (6)
6 b5 f1=Q+	21 Picture (5)	18 Snag (5)
7 Bxf1 Bxf1	23 European language (5)	19 Quarrel (5)
DXII DXII	74 Playbours (7)	77 Deed (3)

24 Playhouse (7) Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword:

ACROSS: 1 Press, 4 Krypton (Prescription), 8 Redwood, 9 Merit, 10 Opera, 11 Annuals, 13 Cope, 15 Rhythm, 17 Wheeze, 20 Iota, 22 Digests, 24 Speed, 26 Exult, 27 Leisure, 28 Matador, 29 Hates. DOWN: 1 Parlour, 2 Endue, 3 Stomach, 4 Kidnap. 5 Yerren, 6 Terrace, 7 Notes, 12 Newt, 14 Omit, 16 Yoghurt, 18 Hashish, 19 Endless, 21 Ostler, 22 Dream, 23 Sated, 25 Erupt.

BRIDGE: ALAN HIRON

North

Game all dealer North

♦A3 ♥KJ94 ♦ A K Q 10 5 East **♦Q** 10 9 4 **•75** ٣A ♥Q 10 7 6 2 **♦**J974 ◊863 ♣J 1098 **♣**A43 South **♠**KJ862 ღ853

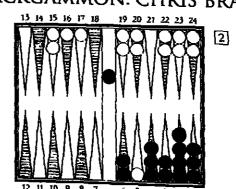
West found a neat shot in defence on this deal and successfully persuaded declarer to abandon a winning line of play in favour of a losing one.

+KQ65

North opened 1 ♦, South responded 1 ♠, and North reversed with 20. Unsure of the best resting spot, South bid 34 (the fourth suit) and North, with no guard in clubs, gave preference to spades. Now South tried 3NT and, with only two spades, North

passed. West led ♣J against Three No-trumps, East won with his ace and returned #4 to South's king. Declarer continued with the three top diamonds, then gave West a trick with his jack. (A better percentage play would have been to take a first-round finesse of the ten.) It would have been easy for West to play another club at this point, with ♥ A as a sure entry, but he looked further ahead. After winning the club, declarer would be almost sure to try a heart for the ninth trick and would succeed when the ace appeared. The only chance was to divert South's attention from the heart suit and make him believe that the spade finesse was right. With this in mind, West switched to \$10! South could not let this run to the tenace without blocking the suit. Convinced that East held \(\Phi \), he played \(\Phi \) A from dummy, cashed the good diamond, and finessed \$ J. West won with \$ Q and reverted to clubs to establish the setting trick while

BACKGAMMON: CHRIS BRAY



Here's another deceptive problem which came up at the Double Fives club the other evening. White has just bit the blot that Black left on his 11-point and Black has compounded his problems by dancing (backgammon-speak for staying on the bar). White now redoubles, should Black take

I was in the box playing with a partner (in a chouette with more than five players it is normal for the box to take one of the other players as a partner to offset some of the risk). My first inclination was to take. After all the race is 66 pips to 91, a healthy lead. My partner, however, had already reached for the scoresheet to score it as a drop. I studied the position more deeply.

That lead of 25 pips is misleading for a number of reasons: we are on the bar and may not enter for some time: we have already buried extra men on our I- and 2-points which, as we have seen before, distorts the pip count; White has 8 rolls (45, 54, 46, 64, 56, 65, 33, 66) which make his 4point next roll and if he doesn't make it this time he will be threatening to do so on each subsequent move.

In addition to having to revise my thoughts about the pip count, I also considered that even if I came in straight away I was likely to be giving White a double or triple shot at my escaping man. White's strategy here, if he can't make his 4-point, is to make points in his outer board as he brings his men around. All in all, it didn't look as if I could win the required 25 per cent of the games, so reluctantly I passed.

Later analysis with the assistance of Jellyfish proved that passing was correct. This position indicates once again how rare it is to be able to take a double when on the bar fac-







'w to devel

The toughest chain reactions

For a sport that has apparently boomed so big for so long, mountain biking is due to take off soon. Real mountain biking, that is, says Eric Kendall.

"Getting air", that bad feeling when your tyres lose contact with the ground, is a seminal moment on a mountain bike. You suddenly find that your wheels aren't just for rolling on, and that biking isn't one notch up from pedestrianism, but one notch down from manned space flight. And if leaving the earth's surface is half the fun, landing

This is the world that titanium frames, full suspension and tractor tyres were made for: hairy drop-offs, inclines of mountain goat severity, surfaces that shake speed. Looking before you leap means you'll never go, so don't look.

Real mountain biking is rather different from the tame feats many might imagine. To every Fulham farmer cluttering the streets in a four-wheel drive, there are 10 mountain bike riders who never see single tracks, gloopy mud, or an incline steeper than a kerbstone. No wonder people are always asking why they've got so many

There's nothing wrong with bridle paths, Tarmac or potholes, but the thrill of a truly mad descent is unbeatable. The downhill race circuit, the most extreme branch of mountain biking, tours alpine resorts for prolonged rider and spectator thrills. But you can find steep stuff in most parts of Britain, too, where only you and a few sheep will know if you bottled it. Only the length of run will be lacking, so a day's ride will involve many ups as well as downs. making this a sport for the fittest.

But, unlike some endurance activities that take place against a backdrop of wild scenery, biking carries all the risks of a reallife adventure, with the potential to get a long It just hurts more when you fall off, and way from anywhere and little in the way of back-up and safety nets other than on the competition circuit. It's like downhill skiing, without a St Bernard or a pisteur for miles.

If you want to minimise the uphills and have a degree of support, that can be arranged. Most of the accessible mountainous corners of the earth are now biked by groups, using four-wheel drives to reach the heights and as back-up in the event of punctures - of the lung, skull or inner tube. No question about it, this is territory for helmets - and body armour, too, under race conditions.

If all of this puts you off even more than the thought of giving way to riders and ramblers back on the bridle paths, the technical stuff may appeal. Trial-type riding needs less herve for speed and a n head for heights until you reach world-class,

The right terrain is all around, wher-

ever you live; obstacles can be found on the street or in the hills. Yet out on the trail, the challenge of balancing at minimal speed takes on a practical aspect, helping to keep your feet dry during stream crossings and taking the pain out of the uphills. Wobbling and weaving up a boulder-strewn path will make you cross-eyed with concentration, suppressing all other sensations.

With the cool shades and laid-back West Coast style, what can't escape anyone's attention is that mountain biking is like, you know, an image thing, man. This may constitute more of a barrier to non-hip over-25-year-olds than any of the mud, sweat and gears perception of riding bikes through soggy countryside.

But it's worth enduring the scene, just to get your hands and feet on the latest technology - not just for its performance, but your fillings loose, and pure, unadulterated for the crazy stunts you'll feel obliged to

ing the classic "face plant" over the handlebars, your hands are likely to hit the deck before any other bits. Eye protection is also important against glare at altitude and mud at ground level. Before hitting the trail, a map (and sometimes a compass) is vital, too. Lycra shorts aren't.

An alternative to buying all the gear you need at the outset is to hire it and try it out, or go on a guided trip with a company that supplies quality equipment as part of the

Most of Britain has good riding, but the classic rides are around the biggest hills. Head for Wales, the Lake and Peak Districts and Scotland. There are also excellent rides in areas such as the Cotswolds. Try Compass Holidays in Cheltenham (01242 250642) for quality bike hire and superb food; guided rides are also available. Other biking com-



simply an adult version of the games that donia (01766 890434); Red Kit Mountain kids play the moment they shed stabilisers. it's more fun, too.

About £300 is the starting-point for a good mountain bike. Cheaper ones have heavy frames and poor components which won't work well for long. Take care with secondhand "bargains" - the bike may look good, but if a frame has been stacked and then straightened out, it's worthless.

Lightest and easiest uphill are "rigid" bikes, but front suspension bikes (hardtails) cushion front-end hits and improve control in the rough, which makes them ideal for and getting away from it all. This is not the mixed riding. For downhilling, try full

These are a bit like bikinis: the more you may apply to some routes. Around £30 gets you a "mushroom head", mation on access, and on local clubs with which is less ventilated and heavier than regular rides. its sleeker, pricier counterparts. Mitts or

There's no getting away from it: this is panies include Bikes Beddgelert, Snow-Bikes, Llanwrtyd Wells (01591 610236); Cairnwell Mountain Sports, Glenshee (01250 885255); and Bideford Bicycle Hire, Devon (01237 424123). Check the classified ads in the mountain biking press, such as MBUK and Mountain Biker International, for details of biking weekends/ holidays, including overseas trips.

Bikes are permitted on bridleways as marked on Ordnance Survey maps, but not on footpaths. Much of the more extreme terrain is underused by walkers and horse and bike riders, so the issues of access that rumble between the various factions can usually be avoided by going the extra mile case in areas heavily used by tourists, and some special restrictions (including vol-Other essentials include a helmet. untary bans at certain times on Snowdon)



moment they shed stabilisers Photographs: AK (above left) and Peter Grant

How to develop a great nose

Learning about wine is a palatable pleasure, but where do you begin? Anthony Rose, wine correspondent of The Independent', gives a guide to the courses on

The luxurious Ecole du Vin at Château Loudenne in Bordeaux was my induction into wine schools, and launched me into wine journalism. It was not the debonair Master of Wine, Charles Eve, my tutor a decade ago, the Ecole is one of the more exotic entries in the voluminous list of wine courses on offer in the monthly publication, Wine Magazine (£2.95).

Geographical limitations aside, choosing a wine course is,

of course, very much a matter of practicalities. Ask yourself how much time and money you are prepared to invest, and what you want from a wine course. Some offer individual sessions; most cater for different levels of knowledge, ranging from beginners, through intermediate, to advanced.

There are adult education classes, specialist courses run by individuals, auction houses and independent schools, tutored tastings and workshops run by wine merchants, not to mention a bad place to start. Still run by the de luxe French model where you can drink in not just the produce of the grape, but the ambience of the vineyard in situ. A beginner's course should

give you a grounding in winetasting technique and description and an idea of how grape varieties and wine styles fit into regions and countries. At

niques on, for instance, blind tasting, and specialist wine trade-related topics such as vine service. Whatever level you're at,

intermediate to advanced lev-

els, you'll find more detailed

information with in-depth tech-

look for a course that makes learning about wine a pleasure and not a chore. So in addition to making sure that the course offers up-to-date information and ample scope for winetasting, try, if you can, to find one where there's an element of humour and unstuffiness on offer. There should be no room at the wine bar for the po-faced approach. Here are a handful of suggestions.

Winewise, 107 Culford Road, London NI 4IIL (0171 - Higher course, £179 for seven 254 9734): £135 for six evening sessions for Beginners Winetasting Course, £200 for Fine Wine Course. From the basement of his Islington home, Michael Schuster rons a beginner's and a fine wine course for up to 20 people, along with individual tasting sessions. Michael's wife, Monika, a fine cook, provides accompanying morsels of food. Schuster is an

experienced palate and writer, and also a relaxed communicator with insight.

Leith's School of Food &

Wine, 21 St Alban's Grove, London W8 5BP (0171-229 0177): £206.99 for five two-hour evening sessions. The evening Certificate in Wine course stands alone from Leith's cooking courses, although with Caroline Waldegrave at the helm, there is inevitably a food and wine skew. There are also daytime wine lectures for beginners, intermediate and advanced levels as part of an annual diploma course.

The Scala School of Wine, PO Box LB 740, London WI4 9LB (0171-281 3040): £159 for five two-hour sessions. sessions plus one-off evening topics. Tim Hall was a journalist and teacher, so he communicates well with his class, which runs to a maximum of 26. Plenty of room here for lively exchanges and self-expression, as I found when I gave one of the sessions. A course with attitude.

Christie's, 63 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 3JS

Grape expectations: when choosing a course look for one that making learning about wine a pleasure and not a chore

two-hour evening sessions. Sotheby's, Aeolian Hall, Bloomfield Place, London WIY 9FA (0171-408 5051): £175 for five two-hour evening

Dust down the pinstripes; adjust the twinset and pearls. There's still an aura of the old school tie about both these institutions, whose courses lend to be run by Masters of Wine. Christie's focus is on France. Sotheby's also emphasises the time-honoured classic regions. but with both a varietal and a regional course, it ventures intrepidly into the New World, too. Lecturers occasionally have had plums removed from

the mouth. The Wine & Spirit Education Trust, Five Kings House, I Queen Street Place, London EC3R !QS. Based in London, Birmingham, Nottingham, and Burton-on-Trent (0171-236 3551): £145 for seven two-hour sessions for beginners. £270 for 14 two-hour modules at Higher Certificate level. Fees include

the exam. The WSET is the wine trade's school, although it has recently opened the cellar door to the public. There's a slight old-fashioned bias towards the Old World, but the Trust also offers competent basic grounding in a wide range of consumer and trade topics including spirits. Get the Certificate and you're on the first rung of the ladder to being a Master of

vice, 112 Hoppers Road, Lon-(0171-581 3933): £170 for five don N21 3LH: Courses in London, Oxford, Preston, Leeds, Bolton and Edinburgh. ple per session. Phil Cooper (0181-886 0304): £155 for 10 two-hour evening Recommended wine merchants

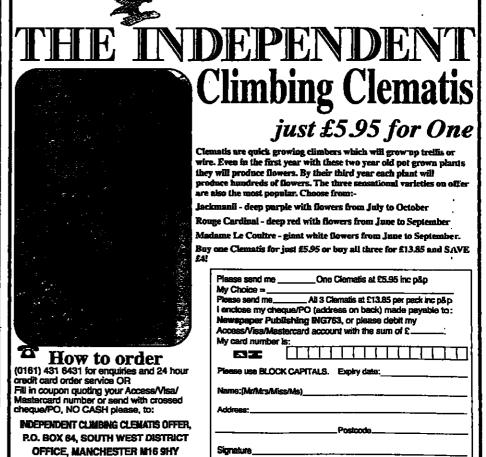
sessions. Run by an ex-Wine & and useful numbers: Bibendum, Spirit Education Trust lecturer, 113 Regent's Park Road, London these are sessions run by Phil NW1 8UR (0171-722 5577); Lay & Wheeler, The Wine Cooper and members of the Association of Wine Educators. Centre, Gosbecks Park, Colchester C02 9JT (01206 713526): The syllabus is similar to that of WSET, but covers wine top-Roberson, 348 Kensington High ics only and has greater em-Street, London W14 8NS (0171-

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phasis on tasting. Up to 24 peo- 371 2121); La Vigneronne, 105 Old Brompton Road, London SW77LE (0171-589 6113); Justerini & Brooks, 45 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2HT (0131-226 4202); La Reserve, 56 Walton Street, London SW3 IRB (0171-589 2020); Ecole du Vin. Château Loudenne. Bordeaux (01279 626801); Association of Wine Educators (0181-995 2277).



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Hern's life and career speak of greatness

weeks to sayour the talent of Major Dick Hern before he retires at the end of the Flat season. Today, one of the century's outstanding trainers of the thoroughbred racehorse sends out runners at his local course, Newbury, for the final time.

"It's all in the form book, isn't

As a response to a request for an interview, it is about as much as you can expect of Major Dick Hern. The depth of talent in the man who has trained 53 Group One winners in Britain in the last 40 years is matched only by his visceral reluctance to discuss them with journalists, and even now, as a brilliant career draws towards its close, his allergy to microphones and notebooks is as pronounced as ever. In the soundbite age, this punter or racegoer in the country who knows anything more about Hern than the names of his best horses, and that he has trained from a wheelchair since breaking his neck in a hunting accident 13 years ago.

Which is a shame, because those who know Hern well would not recognise the sullen Major the public sees. When confronted with someone who seems impossibly aloof, so they say, the best remedy is to imagine them locked in a lavatory, and in the case of Hern, his oldest friend can assist. Michael Pope met Hern when they served together during the War in the desert and in Italy, and gave him his first job in a racing yard, as his assistant trainer for five years from 1952.

"I had a horse running in a selling hurdle at Warwick and I thought he'd win and wanted to have a good bet on him. the trouble is, I know so many people when I get to Warwick, and they'll all want to know what's going on, so it's better if you go and saddle the horse, then hide, and don't appear again until you hear the bell ring for the jockeys to get up. Dick went and sat in the loo, and he said it seemed like it was an age he was sat there, with nothing to read except a timetable of trains from London to Birmingham. He said that by the

There are only two more time he came out, he practically knew them by heart."

It almost goes without saying that the horse won - "and at a nice price, too" ~ but as Pope also points out, "soon after that he started training himself, and it wasn't long before he was winning Classics, not selling plates at Warwick." Hern moved to Newmarket in 1957 to train privately for Major Lionel Holliday, and sent out his first Classic winner, Hethersett in the St Leger, five years later. A year after that, he moved to the West Ilsley yard from where he was to secure his place in turf history.

Brigadier Gerard, Dunfermline, Bustino, Petoski, Troy, Henbit, Nashwan, Sun Princess and Dayjur were just a few of the horses to emerge from Hern's stable during the next two decades, a roll-call which is all the more extraordinary when you consider the obstacles which fate frequently placed in his way.

He has survived no fewer than three desperate reverses, means that there is barely a any one of which might have persuaded a lesser man to hand in his licence. There was the hunting accident in 1984 which those who knew him felt had been waiting to happen. "He was a hard man to hounds," Pope says. "I always used to say to him, pull up a bit, Dick, you'll have a bad fall one of these days, but he just loved it." Then, in 1988, he underwent vital heart surgery. "I went to see him in hospital in London," his friend recalls, "and I wouldn't have given him 48 hours."

And finally, just a few months later in March 1989. Lord Carnarvon, the Queen's

BY GREG WOOD

Pope says. "But I said to Dick, racing manager, served him with notice to quit his beloved West Isley the following November. Some people would have declaimed Carnarvon and, by implication, his employer, to anyone within earshot. Hern, typically, allowed a horse called Nashwan to do the talking for him, with success in that year's 2,000 Guineas, Derby, Eclipse and King George.

"That was a very poignant time to have the horse," Willie Carson, who partnered Nash- Hern a new home when he left



horses, remembers. "He was virtually told that he couldn't do the job any more and that he wasn't wanted and they would find somebody better. So he brings out a horse, first time up in a Classic, and wins. What more of an advert could you have for a trainer? That is a master craftsman at his best."

Carson, like Pope, has seen

the private face of Hern. "He's a very jovial man, but when he's racing it's like he's at the office." the jockey says, while for Pope he is "the exact opposite of what people see, a man who loves people and life, with a great member anything that rhymes," sense of humour. He's tough, mind you, and he stands for no nonsense, but all his staff worship him, and many of them have been with him for God knows how long."

One of those is Marcus Tregoning, a Hern employee for 14 years and the man who will inberit the training licence at the yard which Hamdan Al Maktourn built from scratch to give

wan and many of Hern's finest West Ilsley. "A few years ago, I was thinking. I've done five years with the Major, I really ought to move on and broaden my experience," Tregoning says, "but quite honestly I couldn't think of anyone else I'd rather work for. He's got a sort of sixth sense which allows him to see things which ordinary people don't, and particularly in the latter years, his training triumphs have been nothing short of a miracle. It's been great fun and

> he's taught me so much." Including, it seems, an interesting line in bawdy songs "He's got the great ability to re-Tregoning says, "so he's got a lot of songs that he learned in the army and he loves to sing at parties. He always holds the attention with his repertoire."

It is a difficult image to reconcile with that of the trainer with barely a word to say for himself even in victory. The conclusion, though, is clear. Major Dick Hern has got it badly wrong - it most definitely is not all in the form book.

HERN'S PLACE AMONG THE CLASSIC TRAINERS

1303C CHESSIC WAS SUICE 1700						
		2,000	1,000	Derby	Qaks	Leg
21	Alec Taylor (1905-27)	4	1	3	8	
19	Fred Darling (1916-47)	5	2	7	2	
	Noel Murless (1948-73)	2	6	3	5	
	Henry Cecii (1975-97)	2	5	3	5	
16	Vincent O'Brien (1957-84)	4	1	6	2	
	Dick Hem (1962-95)	2	2	3	3	
15	Frank Butters (1927-48)	1	1	2	6	
13	Cecil Boyd-Rochfort (1933-59	9) 1	3	1	2	
	-	-				

HERN'S GREAT HORSES

Brigadier Gerard: Winner of 17 of his 18 races including a record 13 but able to win King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes over 1m 4f. Bustino: The St Leger winner of 1974 is best remembered for his bravery in forcing Grundy to give at in the "Race of the Century", the King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes of 1975. Established record for Epsom's mile and a half which lasted until Lammtana's Derby win of 1995. Dayjur: Dazzlingly fast winner of all Europe's top sprints in 1990 and would have conquered America too but for jumping a shadow with victory seemingly assured in Breeders' Cup Sprint.

Dunfermline: Only horse to begt dual Arc winner Alleged when winning St Leger of 1977. That was her second Classic as she had also won the Oaks, both wins coming in Silver Jubilee year of her owner, the Queen. Nashwan: Galloped opponents into the ground in 2,000 Guineas, Derby Eclipse Stakes and King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes of 1989. Troy: Produced one of the most devastating Derby finishes ever to win the 200th running of the race in 1979, coming from 10 lengths off the leader to longe seven lengths clear within little more than a furlong.

Little Indian lean and fit for long trail

Today's £75,000 Racing Post Trophy brings an opportunity for a cheaply bought colt to prove his worth. As Sean Woods, his trainer, points out to Richard Edmondson, he is the logical pick on form.

There have been some excellent runners from the reservation, such as Dancing Brave and Commanche Run, and Sean Woods hopes he might be saddling another native American to mention in their company when he sends out Little Indian in the Racing Post Trophy at Doncaster this afternoon.

The Newmarket trainer is already well ahead financially on a colt who cost just 21,000gns at Newmarket's October Yearling Sales. "We liked him for his movement and action and type of horse he was." Woods said yesterday. "You'd like to see him muscle up a bit but he's not really that type of horse. He's a very lean individual and if you could compare him to a human being it would be a 5,000m runner rather than a 100m runner bulging with muscles. But his movement has always been superior to anything we've had because he just floats along."

This is not to say that Little Indian conjures up memorable performances every time he is pointed down the gallops. In fact, the opposite is nearer the truth. "He's not a horse at home that makes you think 'wow' when he's working," Woods said. "He's just a very lazy, laid-back horse but he does seem to be able to produce it on the track and it's nice to be involved with him."

The first sign that Little Indian might not be just another face in the herd came in the Vintage Stakes at Goodwood. Ceptral Park won that race but the horse that was travelling fastest at the line was the one that had come down from La Grange Stables. Little Indian subsequently took his how and quiver to Sandown, where he again finished like the Flying Scotsman, but this time he had no others in front of him.

"People said it was the track and the other horses getting tired but if you watch that race he really quickened up well," Woods said. "He's a Group winner now and it's a natural pro-

gression to come here after the Solario. I've been able to let him down since and bring him back so I've trained him for this race. If you were a form student you would have to go for him because his form stacks up best." The rivals include Mudeer

and Mutamam, both of whom are protecting unbeaten records, plus Kilimanjaro and Craigsteel, who were in the ruck of the Royal Lodge Stakes at Ascot. A line on that form, through Mark Johnston's Sharp Play, who was earlier among the stragglers in the Solario, means that Little Indian (next best 3.40) is the best option this afternoon.

Doncaster's first televised race should go to Swiss Law (3.10), who has flourished since being discarded by Godolphin after Royal Ascot. There are fins rising above the waves elsewhere. Luca Cumani now returns Zerpour (4.45) to his

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Shawdon (Doncaster 4.15) NB: Little Indian (Doncaster 3.40)

best distance, while Mark Prescott is represented by Shawdon in the Listed Doncaster Stakes. Sir Mark does not just plonk horses in races such as this as an afterthought. He will have done his homework and ascertained that SHAW-DON (nap 4.15) possesses a higher rating than most in this juvenile conditions event.

Today's is one of those beautiful afternoons when the racing runs scamlessly from one channel into another. You don't have to get the lawnmower out of the garden shed or compile a shopping list for the supermarket. Instead just plump up the settee cushions and enjoy.

The warm-up to Doncaster is at Newbury, where the main race is the St Simon Stakes. This Group Three contest looks a better showcase than the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe for Busy Flight (2.30), who was a little

embarrassed at Longchamp. Bristol Channel (1.30), a Generous half-sister to Tenby, merits a little speculation following her satisfactory Leicester debut win, while there are prospects too for Chai-Yo (2.00). Jim Old's seven-year-old was sent out for what was ostensibly a tune-up for the jumps campaign at Ascot earlier in the month but ran so well that he now deserves to win a Flat race on his own merit.



GREG WOOD THE A-Z OF BETTING

F is for . . .

of people capable of striking fear into the heart of an onspectors, and faces. Both are more than capable of rummaging in their satchels and taking a thick bundle of notes home, but the faces are probably the greater evil, since they take the direct approach. A face is any punter who is known to be a winner, often a "com-

ey on. Fortunately for the layers, the faces are few while the

Face: There are but two groups Forecast: An attempt to predict the first two or three finishers in a race, in either the correct course bookie - income tax in- or any order, depending on who you bet with. The Tote, via the Dual Forecast and Trio. require only the right names, but bookmakers, who offer Computer Straight Forecasts and Tricasts, demand the exact placings too, while also remaining suspiciously coy about the precise formula used to mission agent" for a heavy-hit- work out the dividend. Sensiting owner or trainer who ble punters quite fairly assume would prefer not to rub shoul- that this silence hides a multiders with the hoi polloi in tude of sins, and either go to Tatts in order to get their mon- the Tote or, better still, avoid

which will always be vulnerable to the eternal curse of jockeys who do not ride out their mounts for a place. Nor are the layers afraid to tweak the maths when it suits their purposes, most recently - and effect of the draw at certain did not reflect the chances of well-drawn horses was an insult to the intelligence of backers,

forecasts altogether, particu- Form: What horses have. And, hand starts up a machine holdlarly the three-horse variety, at a midweek meeting at San- ing 49 balls, of which six emerge down Park, a fair proportion of from the drum, but because bets the punters too.

Forty-Nines: Low-rent facsimile of Camelot's bi-weekly Lottery draw, which for the last year or so has been taking place outrageously - to factor in the every evening in a betting shop near you. Designed to squeeze tracks where some punters the last few pennies from the spied the glimmer of an ad- desperadoes who remain when vantage. Their claim that SPs even the dogs have returned to their kennels, Forty-Nines is the high profit margin is worth gobare bones: no presenters on a few grand per show, nor even who can appreciate that, for in- a ridiculous fake gypsy who has stance, high numbers have a every angle covered ("I see suchuge advantage in sprints at cess for a man in either London Hamilton, and adjust their bets or Birmingham. Or possibly a woman."). A disembodied

are struck at fixed odds, the bookies have thus far escaped being prosecuted for running a lottery, something which legally only Camelot can do. May soon expand to two draws a day because, as one bookmaker put it rather succinctly this week: "if you take £100 on 49s. it is the equivalent of taking £200 or £250 on racing. The

Francasal and also for Flockton Grey: both of them horses who were the focus of "ringing" scandals. A ringer is a horse who runs under an assumed again at 10-1, in a race for two-

ing for." Enough said.

name, often a three-year-old pretending to be a two-year-old. with the intention of defrauding the bookies. Francasal won a two-year-old seller at Bath in 1953 at 10-1, having been money would have been "blown back" to the track to shorten up the price, but the four-strong gang behind Francasal (in truth. a three-year-old called Santa Amaro) cut the phone wires to Furlong. The most elastic unit Bath racecourse about 10 minutes before the off, thereby ensuring a healthy SP. The only reward for their ingenuity, however, was jail, and there were criminal convictions too after Flockton Grey's 20-length win.

year-olds at Leicester in 1982. Flockton Grey was, in fact, Good Hand, a year older than his rivals, and three men were subsequently convicted of conspiracy to defraud, among them backed off-course to win over a businessman called Ken Rich-£50,000 at SP. Normally, this ardson. He, somewhat ironically, is now involved with Doncaster Rovers - who have spent the last few months masquerading as a football team.

> of measurement known to physical science. Defined as one eighth of a mile, or 220 yards, but its actual length can he anything from 300 yards, if your horse is the one in front, to less than 50, if it's the one finishing fast from off the pace.

CARLISLE 1.50 Şandabar 2.20 He's Got Wings 2.50 Pentlands Flyer 3.20 Four From Home 3.55 Lord Of The West 4.25 Cottage Prince 5.00 Valhalla GOING: Firm (Good to Firm in places). Right-hand, undulating course. Run-in of 250yds.

service from Carisle station 2m. ADMISSION: Club £2 (Persioners & Ju-niors £9), Tettersets £6 (£3). CAR PARK: Car & Couch periong free – pionic ● LEADING TRAINERS: Mrs M Revoley 30-96 (31,3%), G Flichards 29-117 (248%), C Parker 13-98 (13.3%), J M Jefferson 12-48 (25%) ● LEADING JOCKEYS: P Niven 27-88 (278%), A Dobbin 22-119 (185%), B Storey 21-50 (12%), R Guest 9-63 (14.3%).

Course is on southern outskins of town, 4m west of junction 42 of MG. Bus

● FAVOURITES: 139-335 (415%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.

I	1.50	GREAT GABLE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 1f
, L		23,000 80060 ZM 11
1	3-3122	SELVENDALE LAD (28) (D) (BF) K Hoggs 6 11 5
2	OOPPR/	GROG (F12) 8 Mactaggert 8 to 12
3	U2434-	LORD OF THE LOCK (164) L Lungo 6 10 12
4	600-6	FILM FOR THE MILL (25) J.M. Lefterson 5 TO 12
5		SPANISH VERDICT (F7) D Smith 10 10 12
6	03/004	SPIDERS DELIGHT (35) T Cultibert 9 to 12
7	2	SANDABAR (31) J H Johnson 4 tij II
8	POROPY	ELISSA (1447) G Kelly 11 10 7 P Midgley (5)
l		- 8 declared ~

BETTING: 7-4 Sendabas, 2-1 Säverdalle Lad, 190-30 Lord Of The Lock, 11-2 Span-ish Verdict, 25-1 Spiders Delight, Run For The MH, 33-1 Grog. 66-1 Ellasa

2.20 SADDLEBACK NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 4f 110yds

POWDER PRIM (11) Mrs S Smith 6 107 _____

6 VINCOTHROP (54) Mass L Russell 4 10 11 _

For	get Corts	, 23-1 char
2	2.50	MALCOLM GALLETLY SOTH BIRTHDAY CEL- EBRATION NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) 25,000 added 2m 4f 110yds
1	0372-1	PENTLANOS FLYER (31) (D) J.H.Johrson 6 11 11
2	P/P-24	ANOTHER MEADOW (15) J Drop 9 11 5 D Parker
3	0053-F	BANNER YEAR (133) T Carr 6 ti 5
4	PU5-36	JAUNTY GENERAL OTT C Parlor 6 tf 5
5	14-323	WELL APPOINTED (15) (C) (BE) B Mactenment 8 Tl 5 B Shortiv
6	SFT-43	SUPER GLY (14) J Barrier 5 tt 3
7	00/F0-	GAME POINT (206) D Lamb 8 11 0
		-7 declared -
Œ	TING: 4-7	Pentlands Flyer, 5-2 Well Appointed, 10-1 Journy Conoral, 14-1 Sci-
per	Guy, 20-1	Stancer Year, 25-1 Another Meadow, 86-1 Game Point

3.20 LADBROKES LLICKY CHOICE H'CAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m 110yds

2F-41 GALE AHEAD (22) (D) G M Moore 7 to 10 60155 XRIDA GROON (25) Park 8 11 2 N Smith 8 06222 FOUR FROM HOME (16) J J ONAS 5 10 2 P Carberry 456-25 ROYAL CIRCUS (11) P Hard 8 10 11 A Dobbin SERMERA (22) J Mackie 5 10 10 ... RETTING: 6-4 Gale Alterd. 5-2 Four From Home, 4-1 Royal Circus, 13-2 Bernera.

3.55 CUMBRIAN HOTEL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) 26,300 added 3m - 3 declared -4.25 OLD MAN OF CONISTON HANDICAP HUR-DLE (CLASS D) £3,650 added 2m 1f

Ministrum weight: 10st, True handicap weights. Highland Way 9st 11th, Normos 9st 8th, Dark Fountain Sat 6th BETTING: 7-4 Supertop, 5-9 College Prince, 100-30 Down The Fell, 6-1 Highland Way, 15-2 Nonios, 50-1 Dark Foundain 5.00 GREAT DODD STANDARD NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,500 added 2m 1f

SI- VALHALLA (175) M Tochurer 4 11 To...... C McConneck (7) MA KELBURNE (15) J M Jefferson 5 ft 4. ____E Cataghan (3) TUZO K Hogg 5 ft 4 ______B Gratian (5) R McGrath (5) SLP AWAY 1 J 07Nell 4 11 3.. MILL REE W Reed 4 10 12 _. .S Melrase (7) . R Wilkinson (5) SOTATTE Mrs S Smath 4 10 12 - 6 declared ~ o constant ~

BETTING: 4-11 Veltella, 11-2 Mr Kelburne, 7-1 Solatile, 8-1 Sep Aucry, 12-1 Tuzzo
25-1 MID Bee

WORCESTER

HYPERION 2.35 Northern Drums 3.05 Brazil Or Bust 3.35 Rowington 4.10 Plan-A 4.40 Northern Starlight 5.10 Cassio's Boy

GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places on hundles course).

Going: Good (Good to Firm in places on hundles course).

List-hand course level with long straights and easy turns.

Gourse is on the A443, Station im, ADMISSION: Outs £13, Tattersials £10, Siver firing £550 (OAPs Instincted). CAR PARK: Free.

LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 36-36 (275%), D Nicholson 27-80 (338%), K Balley 24-102 (235%), P Hobbs 23-108 (213%), D Bridgmetter 24-125 (92%), N Williamson 23-100 (177%), D Morris 7-41 (17.1%).

GENOURITES: 237-881 (35.9%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.

2.35 CITY & COUNTY CONDITIONALS H'CAP HURDLE (CLASS P) £2,575 2m

= 7 doctored =

BETTING: 13-8 Northern Druces, 7-2 Honeybed Wood, 4-1 Galway Boss, 13-2 Fastini Gold, 10-1 Astrol Invasion, Bandra, 20-1 White Willow 3.05 JOHN BURKE MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) 25,000 added 2m

17632: BRAZIL OR BLIST (279) (D) P R Webber 6 11 10 ... C O'Dunya:
30211 NO LIGHT (15) (CD) A Turnet 10 11 9 ... L. Harvey
3U5539 SIGMA RIAN (8) (D) J O'Shee 8 10 13 ... M A PROSPINED B

BETTING: 11-10 No Light, 6-4 Brazil Or Bust, 4-1 Sigma Run

	3.35 SUZANNE KIRBY EBF 'NH' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) \$2,925 271 21
	HURDLE (CLASS F) 62 025 2m 24
•••	1 423-5 CENTAIN SHOT (22) (BF) G McCourt 6 11 0 _ D Bridgmeter
_	2 LIFE'S WORK PHODE 5 TI 0 D Bridgester 3 00- MICHIGAN BLIE (175) W. India 5 TI 0 G Tormey
5	3 00- MECHIGAN BLUE (175) W Jenis 5 11 0
ı,	5 1/ Production many 5 marks 3 (1 U D Gallactus
_	5 1/ ROWNINGTON (885) D Nicholson 6 th 0 D Gallagher 6 BRAVE FRIEND C M Hicks 5 10 9 V Statisty 6 Gedarad V Statisty
_	17 Chaten
_	
-	gan Blue, 25-1 Brave Friend, 33-1 Paramount Leader
	A A RVC CHALLENGE

4.10 PVC CHALLENGE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £5,000 added 2m 4f 110yds 1 MAPLY STRONG TAROUSE (S) P Notice 7 it 20 T J Marphy
Fa'ts HIGHLAND JACK (224) (D) A Turnel 7 to 22 C Rec (7)
3 PRR12: PLAN-A (175) (95) R Ains 7 to 7 22 P Holley
8ETTING: 64 Strong Tarquin, 15-8 Highland Jack, 2-1 Plan-A

4.40 FRED RIMELL MEMORIAL NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) \$5,000 2m 4f 110yds

CHASE (CLASS U) ED; UDU 2m 4f 110ydis [
151-21 NORTHERN STARLIGHT (2) (0) M Ppe 6 til 4 C Maude 151-150 DONTLEAVETHEREST (356) R Curis 7 to 2 D Mortis 3 0026 JALCANYO (21) (0) R Judges 7 to 2 D Mortis 3 Wynne 2 256-3 MORSTOCK (12) R Hodges 7 to 2 T Descende 1 Units ACT in Time (229) T Google 5 to 0 T J Marphy BETTIMG: 1-2 Northern Starlight, 9-2 Morstock, 11-2 Dentienwithenest, 12-1 Act in Time, 16-1 Jalientin 5.10 LADBROKES HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £4,850 added 2m 4f

15/RACING

- ---

e Part de Cara

7.7%

ndia	
- raig	
df	DONCASTER
5 tm	1.40 Sense Of Wonder 2.10 Billy Bushwacker (nb 2.40 Faraway Lass 3.10 Jo Mell
a rig	GOING: Good STALLS: Straight course - stands aid DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.
	Course in Sear-shaped course wi
	LEADING TRAINERS: 8 Hills 34-18
	(10.4%), J Wesver 15-151 (9.9%), R Hills
	PENERED FIRST TIME Cloudberry
. 1	1.40 JOCK MURRAY (CLASS C) £7,000
	1 134243 SEA MAGRIC (70) (Flay Richar 2 581 FLORAZI (20) (D) (Peter S W 3 01 SEHSE OF WOMBER (18) (C 4 32400 LPD (17) (20)
	5 400410 BURNT VATES (12) (0) A B-
	6 66500 NAMASKY (36) (Nigel Munto) 7 030 WELCOME SUNSET (36) (A 8 43323 NICHALONG (5) (D) (North) 9 06000 BENETICEMENT CO.
	TO TOOM PROVISE MATERIAL
~1 ~	12 00350 FALKENBERG (FR) (12) (En 13 0000 LARAMANIA (E) (LEWINDER)
	A ADDRESS LANGE LANGE (3) (NECLOS) !
-	BETTING: 4-1 Florezi, 11-2 Naviesky, 8-1 in Fair, Praestorian Gold, Sendmoor Terten, 1
	nia, Pernilees, Princese Natalie, 20-1 We 1998: Broughtons Error 2 7 11 J Charm 10-1
	2.10 CORN EXCHANGE added 1m 2f 50yds
-	1 245020 BILLY BUSHWACKER (17) (2 002060 BREAK THE RULES (7) (20)
	3 230000 MANFUL (12) (CD) (C D Bar 4 0020-0 GONE FOR A BURITON (112 5 500060 TIBLE FOR ACTION (7) (Mrs
	7 3406 JUGGI FR #21 (Tre Outpool)
7.5-1850 1.5-1850	8 5000 BRIGHSTONE (10) (C) (D) (F 9 44042 ORDANIED (18) (D) (Fair E 10 43660 KARTTIKEYA (FR) (694) (A J 11 604030 MISS RIVIERA ROSE (BY) (J
h	
10 mg	13 00 PRINCE OF BHJTAN (182) (14 431046 FALLS CTMONESS (3) (PIQUE 5 06000 APPLETON'S FANCY (71) (S
	BETTING: 3-1 Brighstone, 7-2 Billy Bush
	10 - 1 Marriul, Zidac, Time For Action, 12-1 Ordeined, Miss Rindera Rose, 20-1 others 1996: Break The Rules 4 9 4 K Darley 3-2 p
	2.40 DONCASTER WRITE
	1 10000 TADEO (9) (D) (J R Good) M. 2 -20240 AZZZI (14) (Chris Brished C
	3 620002 CROWDED AVENUE (27) (D) 4 626050 INDIAN SPARK (B) (CD) (Fran
	5 -10001 PERRYSTON VIEW (35) (CD) 6 300040 ZIGGY'S DANCER (USA) (7) 7 011510 GAELIC STORM (8) (D) (BF)
	8 201223 ANSELLMAN (5) (CD) (Ansell 9 20500 BUDGS BET NA) (C) (The Ben
· : <u>-</u>	10 303000 TWICE AS SHARP (9) (D) (Fc 11 000100 WESTCOURT MAGEC (35) (D 12 432050 SURPRISE MISSION (9) (CD
٠.	13 100601 CAMOVAS HEART (17) (D) (N 14 003046 REPERTORY 69 (D) (M S Sa
	15 (110050 LAGO DI YARANO (9) (CD) (
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	NEWBURY
	1.30 Bristol Channel
	2.00 Prince Of Denial (nap 2.30 Busy Flight
: 	GOING: Good (Good to Soft on back
• •••	STALLS: Straight - stands side; round of DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 51 to 1m of
	■ Left-hanc course with a 1rn straight. ■ Course is south-east of town near A34 poins course. ADMISSION: Cub £14 Tart
<u>r.</u> :	one course, ADMISSION: Cub 214 Tent LEADING TRAINERS: P Chappie-Hy non 29-454 (84%), P Cote 24-209 (115%) LEADING JOCKEYS: T Quirm 33-28
	(10.1%), S Sanders 9-90 (10%), Paul Edd FAVOURITES: 208-622 (33.4%).
تر ا	BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.
-	1.30 FURLONG CLUB RA (CLASS A) £14,000
	1 0015 AMABEL (USA) (21) (CD) (Ge White, a
ł	2 Oto ADMHRE (44) (Mass Gay Kellem White and royal blue distrionds, 3 21 ARCTIC AIR (57) (D) (T A Sco
	White, true 1 BRISTOL CHANGEL (48) (K A Green, pink se
- ' [5 31 COURT LANE (USA) (12) (She Mercon, while sie
Ţ	Wate, large
	Yellow and dark green disbolo, yellow and bia 8 13 LEGGERA (45) (D) (BF) (Mrs I-
	Grey, royal bit 9 () MAYLAN (15) (The Spansh Co Rad, yellow chewron,

	140 Source Court HYPERION	19
٠,	2.10 Billy Bushwacker (ab) 3.40 Saratoga Springs	21
	2.40 Faraway Lass 4.10 Ikhteyaar 3.10 Jo Mell 4.45 Al Azhar	22
'ג'	GOING: Good	M Bi
4	STALLS: Streight course - stands side; round course - inside; round mile - cutside	S:
	Course to 5 of the and the straight.	-
	Course is E of lown out the A638 (M18 Jcts 3 & 4). Bus link from Doncaster Central station. ADMISSION: Cub E14. Testersels St. Säver Ring St. CAR PARK: Free. CEANING TRAINERS: B Hitts 34-80 (189%) J Gooden 31-148 (2004).	3
•		1
•	© LEADING JOCKEYS: L Dettori 38-222 (77%), K Failon 32-231 (139%), J Fortune 16-154 (147%), J Weaver 5-151 (199%), R Hills 14-95 (147%), J Reid 14-91 (73%), J Fortune 16-154 (147%), J Fortune 16-1	2
ì	BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Cloudberry (4.15)	3
	1 40 JOCK MURRAY MEMORIALI MUSTER	4
1		5
	2 561 PLORAZI (20) (70) (Patro E Martin 1/2) (2) (2) (K. Patron 3)	8
	3 01 SENSE OF WONDER (18) (0 H L Thompson) 8 Mechan 8 6. Western 14 32400 LBO (17) (Guy Reed) 8 Hills 92 R Hills 14 R Hills 15 R Hil	
•	6 86500 KAWASKY (36) (North Marrier) Mr. Besterby 8 10	96 19
٠.	7 0130 WELCOME SUMSET (36) (John R Goddard) J Wharlon 8 9 C Lowfer (6) 2 8 43323 MCHALONG (5) (D) (Northward Loren Research) Welcome (6) 2	JC
٠.	10 10000 PROKESS MATALIE OF THE ACCOUNT OF THE PROPERTY IS	Oi at
•		Si
-	13 0000 LARAMANIA (S) (Lawrence & Vaughen) P Erans 7 13	90
,	17	Th
	BETTING: 4-1 Florazi, 11-2 Navisator, 8-1 inchaitong, 8-1 Sense Of Wonder, See Magic, 18-1 Frankle Falt, Praytoring Gold, Sendanger Turtus, 13-1 Sense Of Wonder, See Magic, 18-1 Frankle	-1
-	nia Percelless Princess Matelle 20 s matelle 190 s matelle	
	I was confined by the S. J. of T. Origin 10-1 (A. Minesou) quant (2) 10 ISU	1
٠.	2.10 CORN EXCHANGE CLAMING STAKES (CLASS D) 25,000	2
• •	1 2500 Billy Rishwacker on the County Value £4,078	3
	3 230000 MANEUL (12) (CD) (CD) Report Corner Mercel 594	
	4 0020-0 GONE FOR A BURTON (112) (D) 64 P Camping Mass L Permit 5 9 4 M Kennedy 9 B 5 500060 TIME FOR ACTION OF A FOR A SHARING A FOR A SHARIN	4
	8 450035 ZEDAC (VM (C) (Right) SCA E SITEMY K (Omptons 5.91	5
7.	B SINCE SERVICES COME COME COME COME COME COME COME COME	6
_	K Fallon 5	7
ì		8
ŭ,	13 DO PRINCE OF REUTAN MAD A LOTTON DATE OF THE PARTY OF	
- 2	14 431046 FALLS O'MONESS (3) (Picuel Opera House Partnersho) K Burke 3 8 5 J F Egan 1 06000 APPLETON'S FANCY (71) (Snowdop Stud Co Limited) A Bailey 3 8 4 D Wright 11 — 15 declared —	EE 7-1
₹.	BETTING: 3-1 Brightings, 7-2 Billy Bushwacker S.1 Good For A Street St. Cook The Order	198
	Ordained, Miss Riders Rose, 20-1, others	As
	1998: Break The Rules 4 9 4 K Darley 9-2 t fav (Mrs M Reveley) Crawn (5) 18 ran	rac hen
₹.	2.40 DONCASTER WRITERS RATED HANDICAP (CLASS B)	ing on
٠.		Sin
•	2 2020 AZZZ NA Com Product C English 5 0.7	fass
_	4 62650 BANAN STARK IN APPA CONT. Date 1000	ny det
	5 300040 ZIGGYS DANCER (USA) (7) (0) Lichn Patroix Barryl E Alston R A 12 F Fran 9	dia
		Tra Suit
	8 201223 ANSELLMAN (9) (CD) (Ansels of Watford) J Berry 7 8 11 C Loether (5) 1 B 20500 RUDY'S PET (14) (D) (The Broadgale Partnership) R Harmon 3 8 11 O Peeller 1 B 10 303000 TWICC AS SHARP (9) (D) (Formula Twelve) P 1475 5 8 10 G Hight 5 1	typ Ber
-	10 00000 WESTCOURT MAGIC (SS) (D) (A Hodgoon) M Esserby 4 8 10 I Charocal 10 12 432050 SURPRISE MISSION (S) (CD) (D R Brotherton) Ms J Ramaden 5 8 9 I Fodume 7	FICK WCI
	1 13 LUCUI CANGVAS HISARU (17) (C) (M J Osborne and Mrs. I Woods) Rob. Jones 8 8 9 M Dev 18	Kim bet
	14 003046 REPERTORY (S) (D) (M S Saunders) M Saunders 4 8 9 S Drowne 4 15 010050 LAGO DI VARANO (S) (CD) (The PBT Group) R Whitaker 5 8 8 F Lynch 2 V	beg
		_
	I NEWBURY	6
	WAS TO SECULATE THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O	7
	HYPERION 1.30 Bristol Channel 3.30 Story Line	8
	2.00 Prince Of Denial (nap 4.00 Robin Goodfellow	9 .
	2.30 Busy Flight 4.30 Bettron 3.00 Distant Mirage	10
_	GOING: Good (Good to Soft on back straight).	71
٠.	STALLS: Straight - stands side; round course - inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for it to 1m on straight course.	12
i	Draw ADVANTAGE: right for at at 111 on straight course. ■ Lett-hang course with a 1m straight.	13
- 1		-
-	Course is south-east of town near A34. Rall station (service from London, Paddington) ad- joins course, ADMISSION: Cub C14 Tentersalis C8. Silver Ring C5. CAR PARK: Free.	14
<u>-</u> .	© Course is south-east of town near A34. Rall station (service from London, Paddington) ad- joins course. ADMISSION: Club C14. Tentersals C5, Silver Ring C5, CAR PARIC: Free. © LEADING TRAINERS: P Chapple-Hyam 38-7# (218%), J Gooden 27-47 (25.2%), R Han- non 29-454 (8.4%), P Cote 24-209 (1.5%), J Dumlop 23-87 (12%), R Chariton 20-127 (15.7%).	
	© Course is south-east of town near A34. Rell station (service from London, Paddington) ad- pire course, ADMISSION: Cuto £14. Textursales £3, Salver Ring £5. CAR PARIX: Free. © LEADING TRAINFRS: P Chappie-Hyans 38-78 (219%), J Goeden 37-147 (252%), R Han- non 29-454 (8,4%), P Cote 24-209 (15%), J Dunlop 29-97 (72%), R Charlton 20-127 (157%), © LEADING JOCKEYS: T Quirm 33-281 (117%), M Hills 24-207 (156%), R Cochrane 15-58 (101%), S Sanders 9-90 (10%), Paul Eddery 8-712 (71%), J Quirm 7-86 (81%).	ч
	© Course is south-east of town near A34. Rall station (service from London, Paddington) ad- joine course. ADMISSION: Club 214. Tentersalls 25, Säver Ring £5, CAR PARIC: Free. © LEADING TRAINERS: P Chappie-Hyam 38-78 (218%) J Gooden 37-147 (252%), R Han- non 29-454 (6.4%), P Cole 24-209 (115%), J Dunlop 25-99 (72%), R Charlton 20-27 (157%). © LEADING JOCKEYS: T Quinn 33-281 (11.7%), M Hills 24-207 (116%), R Cochrane 15-58	14 15 Minis
<u>-</u>	© Course is south-east of town near A34. Rail station (service from London, Paddington) ad- joins course, ADMISSION: Cub C14. Instersals C5, Siver Ring E5, CAR PARK: Free. ● LEADING TRAINFRS: P Chapple-Hyans 38-74 (218%), J Gooden 37-47 (252%), R Han- non 29-454 (64%), P Cote 24-209 (115%), J Dumlop 23-93 (12%), R Charlton 20-27 (557%), ● LEADING JOCKEYS: T Culum 33-281 (117%), M HBIs 24-207 (118%), R Cochrane 35-58 (101%), S Sanders 9-90 (10%), Paul Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Quinn 7-86 (81%). ● FAVOURITES: 208-622 (334%), BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.	14 15 Minis BET Itzin
· ·	© Course is south-east of town near A34 Rell station (service from London, Paddington) adpire course, ADMISSION: Cuto £14. Textursals £3, Salver Ring £5. CAR PARIX: Free. © LEADING TRAINFRS: P Chappie-Hyam 38-78 (219%), J Goeden 37-147 (252%), R Hannon 29-454 (8,4%), P Cote 24-209 (15%), J Dunlop 29-97 (12%), R Charlton 20-27 (557%). © LEADING JOCKEYS: T Outern 33-281 (117%), M Hills 24-207 (15%), R Cochrane 15-58 (111%), S Sandiens 9-90 (10%), Paut Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Quinn 7-86 (81%). © FAVOURITES: 208-222 (83.4%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.	14 15 Minus BET
· ·	© Course is south-east of town near A34 Rall station (service from London, Paddington) adpire course, ADMISSION: Cub 914, Textureals 93, Silver Ring 95, CAR PARIX: Free. © LEADING TRAINERS: P Chapple-Hyam 38-78 (218%), J Goeden 37-47 (252%), R Hannon 29-454 (64%), P Cole 24-209 (115%), J Dunlop 23-191 (12%), R Chariton 20-27 (157%), © LEADING JOCKEYS: T Gulam 33-291 (117%), M Halls 24-207 (116%), R Coctatant 47-58 (131%), S senderar 90 (10%), Paul Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Quian 7-86 (81%). © FAVOURITES: 208-222 (834%), BLIRKGERED FIRST TIME: None. 1.30 FURLONG CLUB RADLEY STAKES (Listed) BBC1 (CLASS A) £14,000 2YO 7f 64yds (Round)	Minister of the second
· ·	© Course is south-east of town near A34 Rell station (service from London, Paddington) adpire course, ADMISSION: Cuto £14, Textureate £3, Saver Ring £5, CAR PARIX: Free. © LEADING TRAINFRS: P Chappte-Hyam 38-78 (219%), J Gooden 37-147 (252%), R Hannon 29-454 (84%), P Cote 24-209 (115%), J Dunlop 29-91 (12%), R Cochrane 16-58 (101%), S Senders 9-90 (10%), Paut Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Quinn 7-86 (81%). © FAVOURITES: 208-222 (\$3.4%). BLIRKERED FIRST TIME: None. 1.30 FURLONG CLUB RADLEY STAKES (Listed) BBC1 1.30 CLASS A) £14,000 2YO 7f 64yds (Round) 1 0016 AMABEL (USA) (21) (CD) (George Strawbridge) Beiding 8 11	Marie Marie BET Itzlas Crass 1996
· ·	© Course is south-east of town near A34 Rell station (service from London, Paddington) adpire course, ADMISSION: Cuto £14. Textursales £3, Salver Ring £5. CAR PARIX: Free. ■ LEADING TRAINERS: P Chappie-Hyam 38-78 (218%), J Goeden 37-147 (252%), R Hannon 29-454 (8.4%), P Cote 24-209 (15%), J Dunlop 29-97 (12%), R Cochrane 29-177 (57%), ■ LEADING JOCKEYS: T Gulim 33-281 (11%), M HBIs 24-207 (15%), R Cochrane 15-58 (11%), S Sandiers 9-90 (10%), Paul Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Qulim 7-86 (8.1%). ■ FAVOURITES: 208-222 (83.4%). ■ LINKERED FIRST TIME: None. 1.30 FURLONG CLUB RADLEY STAKES (Listed) BBC1 1.30 GLASS A) £14,000 2YO 71 64yds (Round) 1. 006 AMABEL (USA) (21) (CD) (George Stawbridge) I Batchg 8 11	Ministration of the second sec
· ·	© Course is south-east of town near A34 Rell station (service from London, Paddington) adpire course, ADMISSION: Cuto 514, Textursale 53, Saver Ring 55, CAR PARIX: Free. © LEADING TRAINFRS: P Chappie-Hyam 38-78 (219%), J Gooden 37-147 (252%), R Hannon 29-454 (84%), P Cote 24-209 (155%), J Dunlop 29-91 (12%), J Cooden 37-147 (252%), R Hannon 29-454 (84%), P Cote 24-209 (155%), J Dunlop 29-91 (12%), J Coternon 29-127 (157%), © LEADING JOCKEYE: T Quism 33-281 (177%), M Hills 24-207 (155%), R Cochrane 15-58 (101%), S Senders 9-90 (10%), Paut Endery 8-112 (71%), J Quism 7-86 (81%). © FAVOURITES: 208-222 (83.4%). BLIRKCRED FIRST TIME: None. 1.30 FURLONG CLUB RADLEY STAKES (Listed) BBC1 (CLASS A) £14,000 2YO 7f 64yds (Round) 1 0016 AMABEL (USA) (21) (CD) (George Strawbridge) Batcing 8 11 Median Dayer 2 81 White, and long the distributed greater hoop 2 011 ADMIRE (44) (Mas Gay Release) (20 Notemay 3 8 R Firench 6 79 White and Joyel bits distributed, print blesses, Ander Cap Samilers 5 90 White, brown baces, Ander Cap Samilers 5 90	Ministration of the state of th
· ·	© Course is south-east of town near A34 Rell station (service from London, Paddington) adpire course, ADMISSION: Cuto £14. Textursals £3, Salver Ring £5. CAR PARIX: Free. ■ LEADING TRAINERS: P Chappie-Hyam 38-78 (219%), J Goeden 37-147 (252%), R Hannon 29-454 (8,4%), P Cote 24-209 (15%), J Dunlop 29-97 (12%), R Cochrane 15-58 (101%), S Sanders 9-90 (10%), Paul Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Quinn 7-86 (81%). ■ FAVOURITES: 208-622 (83.4%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None. 1.30 FURLONG CLUB RADLEY STAKES (Listed) (CLASS A) £14,000 2YO 7f 64ydis (Round) 1.006 AMABEL (USA) (21) (CD) (George Sandridge) Baicing 8 11	Manual Service
· ·	© Course is south-east of town near A34 Rell station (service from London, Paddington) adpire course, ADMISSION: Cuto £14. Textersale £3, Selver Ring £5. CAR PARIX: Free. ■ LEADING TRAINERS: P Chapple-Hyam 38-78 (218%), J Goeden 37-147 (252%), R Hannon 29-454 (8.4%), P Cote 24-209 (15%), J Dumlop 29-97 (12%), R Cochrane £6-58 (101%), S Senders 9-90 (10%), Paul Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Quinn 7-86 (8.1%). ■ LEADING JOCKEYE: T Quinn 33-281 (117%), M HBbs 24-207 (15%), R Cochrane £6-58 (101%), S Senders 9-90 (10%), Paul Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Quinn 7-86 (8.1%). ■ FAVOURITES: 206-822 (83.4%). ■ LINKERED FIRST TIME: None. 1.30 FURLONG CLUB RADLEY STAKES (Listed) BBC1 1.30 CLASS A) £14,000 2YO 7 64yds (Round) 1.30 CLASS A) £14,000 2YO 7 64yds (Round) 2.10 CLASS A) £14,000 2YO 7 64yds (Round) 2.11 Miles Gay (Selevary) Gay (Selevary 8 8 11	Marin
· ·	© Course is south-east of town near A34 Rell station (service from London, Paddington) adpire course, ADMISSION: Cuto £14. Textersale £3, Sever Ring £5. CAR PARIX: Froe. ■ LEADING TRAINERS: P Chappie-Hyam 38-78 (218%), J Goeden 37-147 (252%), R Hannon 29-454 (8,4%), P Cote 24-209 (15%), J Dumlop 29-97 (12%), R Chariton 20-127 (557%). ■ LEADING JOCKEYS: T Guinn 33-281 (177%), M HBIs 24-207 (15%), R Cochrane 16-58 (101%), S Senders 9-90 (10%), Paul Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Quinn 7-86 (8,1%). ■ FAVOURITES: 206-822 (23.4%). ■ LIRIKERED FIRST TIME: None. ■ TURLONG CLUB RADLEY STAKES (Listed) BBC1 1 30 FURLONG CLUB RADLEY STAKES (Listed) BBC1 1 005 AMABEL (USA) (21) (City (George Streeting) Batcing 8 11Martin Dayer 2 81 White, amend great hoop 2 001 ADMIRE (44) (Mas Gay Violency) Gay Kelevany 8 8 Mertin Dayer 2 81 White and Joyel hite debroods, pint severs, my all hite cap, pint charand. 3 21 ARCTIC AIR (37) (D) (T A Scothern) E Weymes 8 8 Sanders 5 90 White and Joyel hite debroods, pint severs, and hite cap, pint charand. 4 1 BRISTOL CHANNEL (49) (A Noticity) B HBs 98 Mertin B Mertin Course (11 €8) (12) (Shelin Michannel) D Loder 8 8 R Cochrane 11 98 Memon, white sterves, memon cap, white sterves. 6 010 FFESTINIOG (63) (Eile Racing Quid) P Cole 8 8 T Quinn 10 91	Ministry Min
· ·	© Course is south-east of town near A34 Rell station (service from London, Paddington) adpire course, ADMISSION: Cuto 514. Textursals 23, Saver Ring 25. CAR PARIX: Free. © LEADING TRAINERS: P Chappie-Hyann 38-78 (219%), J Goeden 37-147 (252%), R Hannon 29-454 (8,4%), P Cote 24-209 (15%), J Dunlop 29-91 (72%), R Chariton 20-27 (557%). © LEADING JOCKEYS: T Gulem 33-281 (117%), M Hills 24-207 (159%), R Cochrane 15-58 (111%), S Sandiens 9-90 (10%), Paut Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Quinn 7-86 (81%). © FAVOURITES: 208-222 (83.4%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None. 1 006 AMABEL (USA) (21) (CD) (Seorge Straubnidge) Baiding 8 IIMartin Dayer 2 81 (21%). White, and royel blue distronds, pint selects, royel blue cap, pint distrand. 2 ARCTIC AIR (SI7) (D) (T A Scohern) E Weymes 8 8 Firench 6 79 (21%). White, brown baces, Amber cap 4 BRISTOL CHANNEL (49) (K Abdulan) B Hills 8 8 M Hills 8 105 (21%). Great Aspert LANE (USA) (12) (Shelin Michemmed) D Loder 8 8 R Cochrane 11 98 (21%). Michael (150) (151) (Shelin Michemmed) D Loder 8 8 R Cochrane 11 98 (21%). Hills 8 and you blue flag (21) (5) (Marx France Partnership) J Besis 8 8 J Oxion 4 94 (150) (150) (150) (151)	Ministry Min
· ·	© Course is south-east of town near A34 Rell station (service from London, Paddington) adpire course, ADMISSION: Cuto £14. Textursals £3, Salver Ring £5. CAR PARIX: Free. ■ LEADING TRAINFRS: P Chappie-Hyam 38-78 (219%), J Goeden 37-147 (25%), R Hannon 29-454 (8,4%), P Cole 24-209 (15%), J Dunlop 29-97 (72%), R Contrain 20-127 (57%). ■ LEADING JOCKEYS: T Quikm 33-281 (117%), M Hills 24-207 (15%), R Cochrane 15-58 (101%), S Sanders 9-90 (10%), Paul Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Quinn 7-86 (81%). ■ FAVOURITES: 208-222 (83.4%). ■ LINKERED FIRST TIME: None. ■ 1.30 FURLONG CLUB RADLEY STAKES (Listed) BBC1 1.005 AMAREL (USA) (21) (City (George Stawbridge) Beting 8 π	Maria Service
· ·	© Course is south-east of town near A34 Rell station (service from London, Paddington) ad- pine course, ADMISSION: Cub £14. Textersale £3, Sever Ring £5. CAR PARK: Free. © LEADING TRAINERS: P Chappie-Hyam 38-78 (218%), J Goeden 37-147 (252%), R Han- non 29-454 (6.4%), P Cote 24-209 (15%), J Dumlop 29-97 (12%), R Charlton 20-127 (557%). © LEADING JOCKEYE: T Quiem 33-231 (17.7%), M HBIs 24-207 (15%), R Cochrane 15-58 (101%), S Sanders 9-90 (10%), Paul Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Quiem 7-86 (8.1%). © FAVOURITES: 206-822 (83.4%). BLIRKGERED FIRST TIME: None. 1.30 FURLONG CLUB RADLEY STAKES (Listed) BBC1 (CLASS A) £14,000 2YO 7f 64yds (Round) (CLASS A) £14,000 2YO 7f 64yds (Round) 1.006 AMABE. (USA) (21) (CD) (George Strawbridge) I Beiding 8 11	Ministry Min
· ·	© Course is south-east of town near A34 Rell station (service from London, Paddington) adpire course, ADMISSION: Cuto £14. Textursals £3, Salver Ring £5. CAR PARIX: Free. ■ LEADING TRAINFRS: P Chappie-Hyam 38-78 (219%), J Goeden 37-147 (25%), R Hannon 29-454 (8,4%), P Cole 24-209 (15%), J Dunlop 29-97 (72%), R Contrain 20-127 (57%). ■ LEADING JOCKEYS: T Quikm 33-281 (117%), M Hills 24-207 (15%), R Cochrane 15-58 (101%), S Sanders 9-90 (10%), Paul Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Quikm 7-86 (81%). ■ FAVOURITES: 208-222 (83.4%). ■ LINKERED FIRST TIME: None. ■ 1.30 FURLONG CLUB RADLEY STAKES (Listed) BBC1 1.005 AMAREL (USA) (21) (City (George Stawbridge) Beting 8 π	Marin 1996 Wilk form sixty water Wiln 1996 the saturation of the s
	© Course is south-east of town near A34 Rell station (service from London, Paddington) adpine course, ADMISSION: Cuto £14. Textersale £3, Selver Ring £5. CAR PARIX: Free. © LEADING TRAINERS: P Chapple-Hyam 38-78 (218%), J Goeden 37-147 (252%), R Hannon 29-454 (8,4%), P Cote 24-209 (15%), J Dumlop 29-191 (12%), I Charlton 20-127 (557%). © LEADING JOCKEYS: T Guinn 33-281 (117%), M HBIs 24-207 (15%), R Cochrane £6-58 (101%), S Senders 9-90 (10%), Paul Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Quinn 7-86 (8,1%). © FAVOURITES: 206-822 (824%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None. 1.30 FURILONG CLUB RADLEY STAKES (Listed) BBC1 1 005 AMABEL (USA) (21) (CD) (George Stawbridge) Bating 8 11	Ministration of the state of th
· ·	© Course is south-east of town near A34 Rell station (service from London, Paddington) adping course, ADMISSION: Cub £14. Textersale £3, Salver Ring £5. CAR PARIX: Free. © LEADING TRAINERS: P Chappie-Hyam 38-78 (218%), J Goeden 37-147 (252%), R Hannon 29-454 (8,4%), P Cobe 24-209 (15%), J Dumlop 29-191 (12%), I Chariton 20-127 (157%). © LEADING JOCKEYE: T Quiem 33-281 (177%), M Hells 24-207 (15%), R Cochrane 16-158 (101%), S Sanders 9-90 (10%), Paul Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Quinn 7-86 (8,1%). © FAVOURITES: 206-822 (83.4%). BLIRKERED FIRST TIME: None. 1.30 FURLONG CLUB RADLEY STAKES (Listed) BBC1 1 0016 AMABEL (USA) (21) (CD) (George Strawbridge) Beiding 8 11Martin Dayer 2 81 White, emerald greate hoop 2 011 ADMIRE (44) (Mas Gay (Malera)) Gay (Valency 88 11Martin Dayer 2 81 White and Joya I have distribute, proven bases, may libra cap, pint distributed. 3 21 ARCTIC AIR (37) (D) (T A Scothern) E Weymas 8 8 Sanders 5 90 White Cap, pint distributed. 4 1 BRISTOL CHANNEL (48) (X Abdular) B Hits 8 8 Sanders 5 90 White, convent bases, mayor cap, white sterement. 5 31 COURT LANE (458) (12) (Shelin Michammed) D Loder 8 8 R Cochrane 11 98 Microson, white stereme, mercon cap, white sterement. 6 0110 FFESTINDG (53) (Ette Racing Cub) P Cole 8 8 R Cochrane 11 97 Wallow and durit green dishole, yallow and black dishole on sterees, yellow and durit green dishole, yallow and black dishole on sterees, yellow and durit green dishole, yallow and black dishole on sterees, yellow and durit green attiped Cap Party (18) (The Sparen Correction) D Hydre 8 8 R Hewite 1 Red, yellow of black dishole on sterees, yellow and durit green attiped Cap	Marin 1996 Wilk form sixty water Wiln 1996 the saturation of the s
	© Course is south-east of town near A34 Rell station (service from London, Paddington) adpire course, ADMISSION: Cuto £14. Textersale £3, Salver Ring £5. CAR PARIX: Free. © LEADING TRAINERS: P Chappie-Hyam 38-78 (218%), J Goeden 37-147 (252%), R Hannon 29-454 (8,4%), P Cote 24-209 (15%), J Dumlop 29-191 (12%), I Goeden 37-147 (252%), R Hannon 29-454 (8,4%), P Cote 24-209 (15%), J Dumlop 29-191 (12%), R Cochrane £6-58 (101%), S Sanders 9-90 (10%), Paul Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Quinn 7-86 (8,1%). © FAVOURITES: 206-822 (824%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None. 1.30 FURILONG CLUB RADLEY STAKES (Listed) BBC1 1 006 AMABEL (USA) (21) (City) (George Standardge) Batcing 8 11Martin Dayer 2 81 White, and John 1990 (CLASS A) £14,000 2YO 7f 64yds (Round) 2 000 ADMIRE (44) (Mas Gay Kölelsen) Gay Kelesay 8 8 Martin Dayer 2 81 White, and John 1990 (CLASS A) £14,000 (1990 Standardge) Batcing 8 11Martin Dayer 2 81 White, and John 1990 Hale and Joyal bite debrooks, pint selesay, syel bite cap, pint channord. 3 21 ARCTIC AIR (37) (D) (T A Scothern) E Weymas 8 8 Sanders 5 90 White, brown beases, Ander cap 4 1 BRISTOL CHANNEL (48) (K Abdish) B His 98 8 Sanders 5 90 White, brown beases, Ander cap 5 31 COURT LANE (USA) (12) (Shelin Michrammed) D Loder 8 8 R Cochrane 11 98 Martin Michrammed) D Loder 8 8 R Cochrane 11 98 Martin Michrammed) D Loder 8 8 R Cochrane 11 98 Martin Michrammed) D Loder 8 8 R Cochrane 11 97 Wallow and dark green debote, yellow and black debote on sleenes, yellow and dark green adopted cap 7 214 FRIENDLY WARNING (31) (5) (Mart France Partnership) J Basks 8 8 Calona 4 94 Yellow and dark green debote, yellow and black debote on sleenes, yellow and dark green adopted cap 8 1 LEGGERA (45) (D) (RP) (Mart France Partnership) J Basks 8 8 Calona 4 94 Public antends green debote) on sleenes, subject cap 10 MAYLAN (15) (The Sprinch Correction) D Hybr 8 8 R Leggera 4 Public 12 Public antends green skipe, stiped eleeves and cap 10 MAYLAN (15)	Ministration of the state of th
	© Course is south-east of town near A34 Rell station (service from London, Paddington) adpire course, ADMISSION: Cuto £14. Textersale £3, Selver Ring £5. CAR PARIX: Free. ■ LEADING TRAINERS: P Chapple-Hyam 38-78 (219%), J Goeden 37-147 (25%), R Hannon 29-454 (8,4%), P Cote 24-209 (15%), J Dumlop 29-191 (12%), I Chariton 20-127 (157%). ■ LEADING JOCKEYE: T Gulem 33-281 (117%), M HBBs 24-207 (159%), R Cochrane 15-58 (101%), S Sandiers 9-90 (10%), Paul Eddery 8-112 (71%), J Quimn 7-86 (8,1%). ■ FAVOURITES: 206-822 (83.4%). ■ LIRKKERED FIRST TIME: None. ■ 1.30 FURLONG CLUB RADLEY STAKES (Listed) BBC1 1 006 AMABEL (ISA) (21) (City (George Stawbridge) I Batchig 8 11Martin Dayer 2 81 White, Served Order of Starber Cap White, emeabling order hoop 2 000 ADMIRE (44) (Mas Gay Kolleway) Gay Kaleway 8 8 Friench 6 79 White and royal bite distrands, pink steems 7 8 Sambias 5 90 White, brown baces, Amber Cap 18 Sambias 5 90 White, brown baces, Amber Cap 2	Ministration of the state of th

J KINROR B		
	8 312'91 SARATOGA SPRINGS (7) (D) (Tabor/Magner) A P O'Bren (kt) 9 0 M J Kinene 4 117	
36 O Pasier 4	Royel blue, cronge clisc, pisnge and royal blue striped sleevee and cap - 8 declared -	1
`CUING 3 0 3 J F EQUAL T	BETTING: 7-2 Kilimenjaro, 4-1 Mudoer, 9-2 Seretoge Springs, 6-1 Mutament, 6-1 Little Indian.	,
Bailey 3 8 4D Wright 11	7-1 Craigsteel, 8-1 Hountain Song, 12-1 Quiet Assurance	
Inter 6 6 Breek The Order	1996: Medasily 9 0 G Hind 14-1 (Sasesti bin Suscor) drawn (G) 9 ran	1
Union, 6-1 Break The Roles, 14-1 Prince Of Bhutan, 16-1	FORM GUIDE	
14-1 Philips Of Britain, 19-1	As with last year's Godolphin witner Medaply, MUDEER has been supplemented for the	1
3) 18 ran	race. Mudeer's wirming debut at Leicester is sound form with the four immediately be-	
•	hand him all winning since, and the Warning cost defied the 3lb penalty in style when beat-	1
IDICAP (CLASS B)	ing newcomer Pegnitz (titth to Xaar in the Dewhurst) at Ascot (7f). With plenty of stamma	
18	on the dam's side, Mudeer is the choice in a wide open race. Henry Cecil has an out-	•
-	Standing record in the race and Cratigates was reported ring-rusty when sixth (beaten just over a length) to Teapot Row in the Royal Lodge. Killimanjano, a close fourth on the	1
Dean McKeown 5	faster ground after his win in the mud at Sandown, should appreciate this long, galloping	
	straight. And it's worth noting that Medaaly reversed Royal Lodge form last year with Ben-	
K Fallon 19	my The Dip and Besiege in this. There was a big word for Mutamam when he won on his	
alver 5 8 13L Dettori 14 V	debut at Lingfield, and he cruised home from Golden Dice at Chester next time. Little In-	1
20n 6 8 12 J F Egan 9	dian has done Sean Woods proud and the cott's staying ability enabled him to peg back	€
n 3 8 12 Wesver 21	Tracking and Hearn in the Soleno Stakes at Sandown. That soft ground may not have	•
C Lowther (5) 1 B	suited Heami, who won the Somerville Tattersall next time, but Little Indian remains the	1
n 3 8 11O Pealler 15 B	type to retish a battle over this searching mile. Sarratoga Springe, who crused up in the Beresford Stakes at the Curragh last Saturday, can be called the form horse if Teapot	,
) G Histof 11	Plow (fourth) gave his true running in the Acomb Stakes at York - a race Saratoga Springs	č
48 10 L Channock 10	won by five lengths. Mountain Song jed until caught 100 yards from home by King Of	Ş
Fortune 7 (a) Bob Jones 8 8 9 JN Day 18	Kings and Cettic Cavalier in the National Stakes at the Curragh. He was very impressive	f
	beforehand at Sallabury and will progress further. That leaves Quiet Assurance, who	8
88F Lynch 2 V	beat a big field of inexperienced invals at Newmarket after solid form against decent op-	ŀ
•	position. Selection. *UDEER	•
		_
	6 081240 CONCER UN (22) (Mss L.J. Ward) S.C. Williams 5.8 12	Γ
	White, dark blue stripe, light blue steeves, dark blue sters, light blue cap, dark blue star.	Ĺ
·	7 031031 FRIGHT WING (12) (The Earl Cadogan) W R Hern 3 6 12	1
	8 -4080 WELTON ARSENAL (107) (Business Express) K Bishop 58 th	2
•	Light green and white (quartered), helical steeres.	3
dfellow	9 0-52 CHAL-YO (15) (Alick Viney) J Old 7 8 11	4
4100011	White, royal blue star, red steeres, red and white hooped cap	5
	10 1233 ZALITZINE (USA) (44) (Makisum Al Maktoum) M Stoute 3 B 8	
	Royal blue, while chearon, light blue cop, white star	1
	11 4-4423 CONSORT (8) (Mrs S L Whitehead) Mrs A Perrett 4 8 7	
	White, red cross belts and armiets, yellow cap 12 12420 - CRAZY CHEEF (421) (SF) (David J Smpson) P Cole 4 8 7	
	Reacots	١
	13 10SID6 PRINCE OF DENIAL (7) (C) (D) (J S Guden) D Arbuthnot 3 8 6 S Whitworth 11 100	Ĺ
London, Paddington) ad-	Yallow, royal blue stripe, striped sleaves, yellow csp. myel blue spots	1
CAR PARK: Free.	14 1-0016 POLAR PLIGHT (185) (The Middletern Partnershp) M Johnston 3 8 6 J Carroll 8 107	2
len 37-147 (25.2%), R Han- R Charlion 20-127 (15.7%).	Royal blue, pink stripe, halved steeves, striped cap	3 4
16%), R Cochrane 16-158	5 503024 RAPIER (22) (Mrs A Kane) R Hannon 3 8 4 Dame O'Neill 6 101	4
7-86 (81%).	Pink and dark blue stripes, pink sleaves, dark blue armies	5 6
	– 15 declared – Minimum weight 8st 7tb (3yo 8st 3fb). True handicap weights: Consort 8st 6fb, Crazy Chief 8st 3fb.	7
	BETTING: 5-1 Prince Of Denial, 6-1 Mithali, 13-2 Strazo, 7-1 Right Wing, 8-1 Consort, 10-1 Zei-	
	Itzine, Concer Un., 12-1 Wilcums, 14-1 Grief, Replet, 16-1 Another Time, 20-1 Chai-Yo, Poler Flight,	8
isted) BBC1	Crazy Chief, 33-1 Welton Arsenal	
_ '		В
nd) ==	1996: Wilcoms 5 9 7 A Clark 5-1 (P Makin) drawn (9) 12 ran	
(NO)	FORM GUIDE	Ħ
nd)Martin Dayer 2 81	FORM GUIDE Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good	
11Siacin Dayer 2 81	FORM GUIDE Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good form then after whoing the Magnet Cup and nursing a good second at Ascot. he hasn't	15
11Recin Dayer 2 81R Pleach 6 79 pink diamond.	FORM GUIDE Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good form then after winning the Magner Cup and running a good second at Ascot. he hasn't shown the same sparkle this term, best but is the lightly reced MITHALL, who is 10 b high-	15
11Recin Dayer 2 81R Pleach 6 79 pink diamond.	FORM GUIDE Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good form then after whoing the Magnet Cup and nursing a good second at Ascot. he hasn't	Ħ
11 Martin Duyer 2 81 R Ffrench 6 79 pink classocat. S Sancient 5 90	FORM GUIDE Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good form then after winning the Magnet Cup and running a good second at Ascot. he hasn't shown the same sparkle this term, best but is the lightly raced MITHALI, who is 10th higher than when fifth (of eight) to listoff on his only previous handcap attempt – he don't get the bestrof runs – but has won conditions events at. Doncaster and Leiser's and was an easy winner of a Nottinghem maden in June on his introduction. Strazo and Right	15
11Recin Dayer 2 81R Pleach 6 79 pink diamond.	FORM GUIDE Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good form then after whining the Magnet Cup and running a good second at Ascot, he hasn't shown the same sparkle this term, best but is the lightly reacel MITHALI, who is 10th light ret then when fifth (of eight) to listed for his only previous handcap attempt – he don't get the bestrof runs – but has won conditions events at Doncaster and Leicester and was an easy winner of a Nottingham maiden in June on his introduction. Strazo and Right Wilng are others in good form – going in at Newmarket and Ayr on their most recent runs.	11 1 2
11Martin Duyer 2 87 R Prench 6 79 pint diamond. 5 Sandon 5 90	FORM GUIDE Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good form then after winning the Magnet Cup and running a good second at Ascot, he hasn't strown the same sparkle this term, best bet is the lightly raced MITHALL, who is 10th higher than when fifth (of eight) to listed on his only previous handcap stempt – he ddn't get the best of runs – but has won conditions events at Doncaster and Laicester and was an easy winner of a Nottingham maiden in June on his introduction. Strazo and Right Wing are others in good form – going in at Newmanket and Ayr on their most recent runs. It was good to firm at Newmanket but Strazo was a winner or good to soft at Chepstow.	11 2 3
11 Martin Duyer 2 81 R Ffrench 6 79 pink classocat. S Sancient 5 90	FORM GUIDE Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good form them after winning the Magnet Cup and running a good second at Ascot, he hasn't shown the same sparkle this term, best but is the lightly raced MITHALL, who is 10th higher than when fifth (of eight) to lister on his only previous handcap attempt – he don't get the bestrof runs – but has won conditions events at Doncaster and Laiser's and was an easy winner of a Nottingham madden in June on his introduction. Strazo and Right Wing are others in good form – going in at Newmarket and Ayr on their most recent runs, it was good to firm at Newmarket but Strazo was a winner on good to soft at Chepstow lest term, while there was give in the ground when Right Wing went in at the Scottish	11 2 3 4
11Martin Duyer 2 87 R Prench 6 79 pint diamond. 5 Sandon 5 90	FORM GUIDE Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good form then after winning the Magnet Cup and running a good second at Ascot, he hasn't shown the same sparkle this term, best but is the lightly reacel MITHAU, who is 10th light return when fifth (of sight) to lister for his only previous handcap attempt - he don't get the best of runs - but has won conditions events at Doncaster and Leicester and was an easy winner of a Nottingham maiden in June on his introduction. Strazo and Right Wilnig are others in good form - going in at Newmarket and Ayr on their most recent runs. It was good to firm at Newmarket but Strazo was a winner on good to soft at Crepstow lest term, while there was give in the ground when Right Wing went in at the Scottish track - he was staying on strongly at the firish and will appreciate the extra turiong - and	1 1 2 3 4 5
In Martin Dayor 2 81 R Firench 6 79 pirk dienzud. S Sandera 5 90 M Hills 8 105 R Cockrave 11 98 T Quinn 10 91	Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good form then after winning the Magnet Cup and running a good second at Ascot, he hasn't shown the same sparkle this term, best but is the lightly reced MITHALL, who is 10th light er than when fifth (of eight) to lister for his only previous handleap attempt - he didn't get the bestrof runs - but has won conditions events at Doncester and Leicester and was an easy winner of a Nottingham mader in June on his introduction. Stazzo and Right Willing are others in good form - going in at Newmarket and Ayr on their most recent runs. It was good to firm at Newmarket but Stazzo was a winner on good to soft at Chepstow lest term, while there was give in the ground when Fight Wing went in at the Scottish track - he was staying on strongly at the finish and will appreciate the extra furlong - and also when he won at Ascot in June. Shazzo should confarm lasts running with the fourth, Rappler, who was beeten more than six lengths and has a 6to attwentage. Prince Of De-	11 1 2 3 4 5 6
III	FORM GUIDE Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good form then after winning the Magnet Cup and running a good second at Ascot, he hasn't shown the same sparkle this term, best but is the lightly reacel MITHAU, who is 10th light return when fifth (of sight) to lister for his only previous handcap attempt - he don't get the best of runs - but has won conditions events at Doncaster and Leicester and was an easy winner of a Nottingham maiden in June on his introduction. Strazo and Right Wilnig are others in good form - going in at Newmarket and Ayr on their most recent runs. It was good to firm at Newmarket but Strazo was a winner on good to soft at Crepstow lest term, while there was give in the ground when Right Wing went in at the Scottish track - he was staying on strongly at the firish and will appreciate the extra turiong - and	11 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
IIIMartin Duyer 2 87 IIIR Pirench 6 79 pint dismond. S Sanders 5 90R Cockrase 11 98T Cusion 10 97 Banks 88 J Cusion 4 94 and dark green stipped cap	FORM GUIDE Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good form then after winning the Magner Cup and running a good second at Ascot. he heart shown the same sparkle this term, best bet is the lightly raced MITHALI, who is 10th higher than when fifth (of eight) to Istarff on his only previous handcap stempt – he dudn't get the bestrof runs – but has won conditions events at Donceater and Leicester and was an easy winner of a Nottingham maiden in June on his introduction. Strazo and Right Wing are others in good form – going in at Newmarket and Ayr on their most recent runs. It was good to firm at Newmarket but Strazo was a winner on good to soft at Chepstow last term, while there was give in the ground when Right Wing went in at the Scottish track. – he was staying on strongly at the finish and will appreciate the extra furion; and also when he won at Ascot in June. Strazo should confarm latest running with the fourth, Rapler, who was beaten more than six lengths and has a 6to adventage, Prince Of Denial, soth of 30 to Guif Stradi at Newmarket. Selection: MITHALI	11 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
In Martin Dayor 2 81 R Firench 6 79 pirk dienzud. S Sandera 5 90 M Hills 8 105 R Cockrave 11 98 T Quinn 10 91	FORM GUIDE Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good form then after winning the Magnet Cup and running a good second at Ascot. he heard shown the same sparkle this term, best bet is the lightly readel MITHALI, who is 10th light rethen when fifth (of eight) to lister on his only previous handcap attempt - he didn't get the bestrof runs - but has won conditions events at Doncaster and Leicester and was an easy winner of a Nottinghem maden in June on his introduction. Strazo and Right Wilnig are others in good form - going in at Newmarket and Ayr on their most recent runs. It was good to firm at Newmarket but Strazo was a winner on good to soft at Chepstow last term, while there was give in the ground when Right Wing went in at the Scottish track - he was staying on strongly at the finish and will appreciate the extra furiong - and also when he won at Ascot in June. Strazo should confirm latest running with the fourth, Rapler, who was besten more than sot lengths and has a 6to attentage. Prince Of Denkel, sicit of 30 to Gulf Straad at Newmarket. Selection: MITHALI	11 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
IIMartin Dayer 2 87 R Prench 6 79 pint diamond. S Sandon 5 90 M Hills 8 105 R Cochrese 11 98 T Quinn 10 97 and dark green stiped cap T Sprake 3 97	FORM GUIDE Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good form then after winning the Magner Cup and running a good second at Ascot. he heart shown the same sparkle this term, best bet is the lightly raced MITHALI, who is 10th higher than when fifth (of eight) to Istarff on his only previous handcap stempt – he dudn't get the bestrof runs – but has won conditions events at Donceater and Leicester and was an easy winner of a Nottingham maiden in June on his introduction. Strazo and Right Wing are others in good form – going in at Newmarket and Ayr on their most recent runs. It was good to firm at Newmarket but Strazo was a winner on good to soft at Chepstow last term, while there was give in the ground when Right Wing went in at the Scottish track. – he was staying on strongly at the finish and will appreciate the extra furion; and also when he won at Ascot in June. Strazo should confarm latest running with the fourth, Rapler, who was beaten more than six lengths and has a 6to adventage, Prince Of Denial, soth of 30 to Guif Stradi at Newmarket. Selection: MITHALI	11 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
III	FORM GUIDE Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good form then after winning the Magnet Cup and running a good second at Ascot. he heard shown the same sparkle this term, best bet is the lightly raced MITHALI, who is 10b higher than when fifth (of eight) to Istoff on his only previous handcap stempt – he dean't get the bestrof runs – but has won conditions events at Doncaster and Leicester and was an easy winner of a Nottinghern maiden in June on his introduction. Strazo and Right Wing are others in good form – going in at Newmarket and Ayr on their most recent runs. It was good to firm at Newmarket but Strazo was a winner on good to soft at Chepstow lest term, while there was give in the ground when Right Wing went in at the Scottish track – he was staying on strongly at the finish and will appreciate the extra furing – and also when he won at Ascot in June. Strazo should confirm latest running with the fourth, Rapler, who was beaten more than sor lengths and has a 6to adventage. Prince Of Denial, south of 30 to Guif Straad at Newmarket. Selection: MITHALI 2.30 PERPETUAL ST SIMON STAKES (Group 3) (CLASS A) £30,000 added 1m 4f £21,300 BBC1	11 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
III	FORM GUIDE Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good form then after whining the Magnet Cup and running a good second at Ascot, he hasn't shown the same sparkle this term, best but is the lightly reacel MITHALI, who is 10th light in their when fifth (of sight) to lister for his only previous handcap attempt - he don't get the bestrol runs - but has won conditions events at Doncester and Leicester and was an easy winner of a Nottingham maiden in June on his introduction. Strazo and Right Willing are others in good form - going in at Newmarket and Ayr on their most recent runs. It was good to firm at Newmarket but Strazo was a winner on good to soft at Crepstow last term, while there was give in the ground when Right Wing went in at the Scottish track - he was staying on strongly at the firsh and will appreciate the extra furiong - and also when he won at Ascot in June. Strazo should confirm latest running with the fourth. Rappler, who was besten more them so kingths and has a 6to adventage. Prince of Denial, sixth of 30 to Guif Straadi at Newmarket. 2.30 PERPETUAL ST SIMON STAKES (Group 3) PERPETUAL ST SIMON STAKES (Group 3) CLASS A) £30,000 added 1m 4f £21,300 Token 10 177	11 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
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R Pirench 6 79 pini diamond. R Pirench 6 79 pini diamond. S Sandera 5 90 M Hille 8 105 R Cockrawe 11 98 T Quinn 10 97 Senies 6 8	FORM GUIDE Wilcums won this by a couple of lengths a year ago but whereas he came here in good form then after winning the Magnet Cup and running a good second at Ascot. he hearth shown the same sparkle this term, best bet is the lightly raced MITHALL, who is 10th lighter than when fifth (of eight) to lister on his only previous handcap strempt – he didn't get the bestrof runs – but has won conditions events at Doncaster and Leicester and was an easy winner of a Nottingham maiden in June on his introduction. Strazo and Right Wing are others in good form – going in at Newmanket and Ayr on their most recent runs. It was good to firm at Newmanket but Strazo was a winner on good to soft at Chepstow last term, while there was give in the ground when Right Wing went in at the Scottish track – he was staying on strongly at the finish and will appreciate the extra furiong – and also when he won at Ascot in June. Strazo should confarm latest running with the fourth, Rapler, who was beaten more than sor lengths and has a 6to adventage. Prince Of Denial, sorth of 30 to Guif Stread at Newmanket. PERPETUAL ST SIMON STAKES (Group 3) (CLASS A) 230,000 added 1m 4f £21,300 PERPETUAL ST SIMON STAKES (Group 3) (CLASS A) £30,000 added 1m 4f £21,300 T Quinn 10 1177 Nation 10 1177	11 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18

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ial, sixth of 30 to Gulf Sheadi at Newmerket. Selection: MITI	A
2.30 PERPETUAL ST SIMON STAKES (Group 3) BBC	7
	_
-40'20 SALMON LADDER (USA) (28) (CD) (M Arbit) P Cole 5 9 3	1 77
Yellow, royal blue cross of lovalne, amiliats and cap 23010 BUSY FLKSHT (20) (CD) (S Vingdald Digby) B Hills 4 9 0	12
Analy report, black steepes	
(56) (C) (D) (BF) (Hamden Al Meksborn) R Americang 5 9 0	71
3-0530 LORD JBM (116) (D) (Mrs S Y Thomas) Lord Hunfington 5 9 0 Dene O'Nelli 9 V	10
Purale, velice diamonds on sleeges, questared can	
366423 PROPER BLUE (USA) (8) (M J Legge) T Mile 4 9 0	11
386425 PHOP-EN HUBE (USA) (8) (at 100) (3) (at 100) (4) (b) (b) (b) (b) (b) (b) (b) (b) (b) (b	11
Lan' hee consists they rain since	
11 TAUFAN'S MELODY (27) (D) (AL At Sea) Lady Herries 690	11
White, dark blue cross balls, hooped sleeves, and cap	
581345 BUDDY MARVEL (46) (D) (J H McLoughin) J McLoughin's 8 7	rų
-2002 HALTARRA (USA) (SR) (Godolphri) Seed bn Suror 3 8 7	11
Royal blue	
4926 - PERITAD (USA) (21) (D) (K Abdulle) R Charlton 3 B 7	77
125 KALIANA (41) (D) (H H Aga Khan) L Cuman 384	12
Green, red apaulata, green cap	
-11 declared -	
ETTING: 9-4 Bosy Flight, 7-2 Kallena, 5-1 Kutte, 6-1 Textens Melody, 8-1 Haltarra, Pentind, Macon Ladder, 16-1 Proper Blue, 25-1 Buddy Marval, 33-1 Lord Jim, Supilol	-
96: Seimon Lacide: 4 9 0 T Quirn 11-2 (P Cole) drawn (12) 12 nan	
FORM GUIDE	

FORM GUIDE

Salmon Ladder beat Kutta three parts of a length in last year's corresponding race —
the pair five lengths clear of the useful Sea Lurra — but the numer-up, with a 3th pull, can
prove the pick of the pair today. He followed a four-length Newmarket victory in June with
seconds to Surgeon at Melsons-Latifitie (Group Two) and to Further Flight at Chester, besten ten langths. However, this looks booked for BUSY FLIGHT, who is a close reliable of
Further Flight. Berry Hills's charge finished only tenth in the Arc but was successful in his
two preceding starts — over course and distance and at Doncaster, where he easily beat
themories. Tauphan's Meledy beat. Rudayma three-quarters of under 9st 10th a length
in the Tote Suday Special Handicap — a race he won in 1995 — but was demoted for causing interference on the home turn.

4.15 CHARLES SIDNEY MERCEDES DONCASTER C4 STAKES (Listed) (CLASS A) £13,500 2YO 6f

022h DETERRENT (A9) (D) (Shelin Mchammed J Goaden 8 9

Mileron, white stemast, menons cap, white stem

3ram HILLOOM (35) (D) (Purser Racing Syndicate) J Dunlop 8 9

Dark green, yellow stope, disbolio or always and star on cap

3ram MONTE LEBIOS (27) (D) (S hi Do Zabell, R Christin 8 9

White, red seams, striped stemes, hoped cap

18512 SHAWDON (23) (D) (Coli Humphrits) Sr M Prescott 8 9

Bown and green subpes, brown eleves and cap

1871 TOBLESSONG (3) (D) (The Fairy Story Partnership R Alvahus 8 9

Alous his and yellow diabole, yellow stewers, said cap

40245 YORKIES BOY (35) (Mis M Bedden) 8 Middelon 8 9

40245 YORKIES BOY (35) (Mis M Bedden) 8 Middelon 8 9

201402 CLOUDBERRY (27) (Mis Denys Backerndge) 8 Mediens 8 4

Carren, black assem, orange cap, black disectors

Geograp, black assem, orange cap, black disectors

Fled, right blad stars or always, and cap, copil blad stars 8 4. _107 7 Singape 7 Advances were the second of th 3.10 RACING POST STAKES (CLASS B) £11,650 C4 4.45 LADBROKE HANDICAP (CLASS C) £15,000 C4 OD34 GREENSTEAD (ISSA) (14) (Sheich Mchammed) J Goden 4 10 0 ______ L Deltori 2 57

Marcon, while steeks, marcon cap, while ster

10201 TESSAJOE (35) (10) (Riey Permessho) M Carracho 5 9 7 ______ L Chemock 6 100
16504 (Delto hopps, check steeks, pelped caps 7 _____ S Drawne 13 96

White and block discounds, while steeves, hopped cap

(0102 ZERPOUR (20) (10) (85) (H H Ags Rhen) L Curran 3 9 2 ______ J Beld 4 99 3.40 RACING POST TROPHY (Group 1) (CLASS A) C4 Green, red épaules, graen cap 2-0040 COPS PETTIE (42) (C) (Mrs D MacRae) Mrs J Cecil 4 9 2 Gold and maroon check, gold slewest and lassel on cap

MUDEER (27) (Goldphin) Seed bin Suppor 9 0 L Dettori 7 99

3	3.00 STAFFORD KNIGHT STAKES (CLASS C) £7,000 added 2YO 1m Penalty Value £4,387
1	01 KOMESTAR (18) (Class Act) P Harris 9 Q.,
2	(5 ALAZAN (58) (The Spanish Connection) D Hyde 8 11
3	2 DISTANT MIRAGE (37) (BF) (R Sangsier) P Chapple-Hyam 8 TI
4	EVANDER (Anthony Society and P Cole 8 8 T Quinn 4
5	STINGRAY (M.J. Pilengton) M. Johnston & B
_	-5 declared -
BET	TING: 4-5 Distant Mirage, 3-1 Kombster, 4-1 Evender, 7-1 Stingrey, 50-1 Alazan
	6: Tempang Prospect 8 6 D Harrison 8-1 (Lord Huntingdon) drawn (7) 7 ran
3	JOHN COALES 70TH BIRTHDAY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1 m 4f 5yds Penalty Value £3,756
1	40301 RAISE A PRINCE (FR) (112) (Dr Frank S B Chao) S Woods 493S Senders 3
2	CLONOE (McKeman - O'Neil) R Ingram 3 8 11
3	0-0 FURNCHAL WAY (206) (MSo Rose) BR Milman 5-8 11T Sprake 8
4	000400 STORY LINE (15) (The Story Line Partnership) D Arbuthnot 4 8 ft
5	044340 AT LIBERTY (23) (D) (Bruce Adems) R Hennon 5 8 10
6	004545 ALIDYAN BLUE (7) (CD) (Keath H Paimer) J Eustace 7 B 10
7	1-1D01 ONCE MORE FOR LUCK (12) (D) (M Reveloy Cub) Mrs M Reveloy 6 8 10 A Cultimote 7
8	44005 PROTOCOL (88) (Highclere Thoroughbred Recing Link) J Hills 3 8 5
9	243504 MOUNTAINEER (8) (Sir Peter Davis) M Bell 3 8 3
	-9 declared -
	TING: 5-2 Once More For Luck, 7-2 Midyan Blue, 4-1 Raise A Prince, 5-1 Protocol, 8-1 Moun-
teks	eer, 10-1 At Liberty, 12-1 Story Line, 20-1 others

199	6: Acyal C	liversion 3 8 6 T Sprake 6-1 (J Dunlop) chawn (10) 16 ram
4	.00	DICK DAWSON NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,000 added 2YO 6f 8yds Penalty Value £5,345
1	225034	SMOOTH SAILING (14) (A R Parish) K McAultife 9 7
2		TEMPUS FUGIT (10) (The Keepers) B R Milman 95
3		HTLL MAGIC (34) (D) (Michael Jackson Bloodstock Ltd) D Eleventh 9 4 R Firench (3) 4
4		ROBIN GOODFELLOW (5) (D) (Michael Gough) P Walleyn 93 J Carroll 19
5		BEWARE (11) (Wyck Hall Stud) R Armstrong 9 1 A Clark 2
6	010	POLY BLUE (26) (CD) (\$heet & Roll Conventors Ltd) Gay Kellessey 8 13A Whelen (3) 11
7	(25	WOLFHUNT (17) (Mrs Elleen Queally) P Makin 8 13
8	424(22	THE BOY JOHN (USA) (4) (J B R Leisure Ltd) R Harmon 8 t3 W J O'Connor 8
9	024026	KENNET (19) (Mass M C Fraser) P Curdel 8 11R Parhern 18
Ð	68002	MODASTONE (15) (Mis () B Brazer) A Jarvis 8 8
11	204300	WHO NOSE (15) (D) (Abbatt Recing Limited) B Meethen 8 8
12	34503	MOHAWK (22) (John Derby) J Duniop 85
13	100401	TRUTH TELLER (24) (D) LIC Smith) R Harmon 84
14	2300	PERFECT HARMONY (11) (N B Attenborough) B Meshan 8 1
6	054040	FROLICIONG (20) (D South J Dunko 8 1 T Speaks 10
6		JEWEL (17) (Lady Terrent) R Harmon 7 11
7	30000	TULLICH REFRAIN (5) (The Sun Purities Club) W Muir 7 10
B	444006	ELLEYSANTA (25) (Advanced Marketing Services Ltd) A Newcombe 7 10 F Norton 15
8	120000	FAST FRANC (8) (D) (J W Lovid) S C Williams (7) 1
-		- 19 declared -
4	THE WAY	htt, 7st 10th. True handicep weights: Elleyeante 7st 6th, Fest Franc 7st 7th.
	TD40. E 5	Dalla Cantilities 5.1 Balance 7.5 The Box John 6.1 Ballakin Manustree 6.1

1996	i: Yorkie (George 93 O Urbina 4-1 Kev (L. Cumeni) drawn (10) 13 ren
4	.30	LEVY BOARD NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS D) 24,550 added 2YO 7f 64yds (Round) Penalty Value £3,649
1	U120	BETTRON (31) (D) (R Gander) R Harmon 87
2	3120	BETTRON (31) (0) (R Gander) R Harmon 9 7
3		MIGHT VIGIL (117) (Sait Al) B Has 8 13
4	3404	TABINI. (12) (Harmdan Al Makinum) W R Hern 8 12 Paul Eddery 5
5	502,144	BOURD TO PLEASE (21) GAs Amende Shellon) P Makin 8 TOS Sanders 11
6	003300	RESPOND (8) (C J Pernsch) G L Moore 89
7	584	ACEBO LYONS (38) (Terence P Lyons II) A James 88T Quinn 8
8	0006	ARCTIC STAR (24) (Kingadown Recing) M Charmon 85
9	000	PRIORS MOOR (24) (Mrs L Alexander) R Armstering 8 4
10	330603	FIRE GODDESS (4) (Mrs Victoria Goodman) J S Moore 8 4
Ħ		SHANKON'S SECRET (31) (Mrs Shele Tucker) & Meeten & 1
12	200	FLYING BOLD (S) (Mrs H Levy) W Muir 80
13		MARI-ELA (8) (D) (J K Gale) J Arnold 7 12
Ħ		SAMPOWER LADY (34) (Sempower Racing Club) W Musson 7 11
BET	TNG: 4-1	i Mari-Be, 6-1 Respond, 7-1 Tejeril, 8-1 Flying Bold, Night Vigil, 10-1 Anita Al Dawn,

Acabo Lyman, 12-1 Beltron, Arctic Star, 14-1 Bound To Please, Priore Moor, 16-1 Sarppower Lady 20-1 Fire Goddese, 33-1 Stenman's Secret 1998: Keiser Kache 9 0 D Lithinz 20-1 (K McAulife) drawn (20) 19 ran

PUNTERS' GUIDE

NEWBURY L30: BRISTOL CHANNEL, a half sister to the 1993 Dante Stakes winner, Tenby, created a favourable impression when beating Ram-bling Rose by half a length in a 1m maiden at Leicester last month. She can successfully step up in class. Mihna and Court Lane are obvious dangers while it would not come as a surprise to see the newcomer Midsummer Romance acquit berşelî well.

2.08: PRINCE OF DENIAL, a creditable six lengths sixth to Gulf Sheadi in a 1m handicap at Newmarket last Saturday, is well treated on the form he showed to win over the same trip here last month and should go close. Straze and Polar Flight may pose the most prob-

2.30: BUSY FLIGHT, who kept on well and was beaten by no more than 12 lengths into 10th place by Peintre Celebre in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe over 1m 4f at Longchamp, takes a big drop in class here and should go well. Kaliana, trained by Luca Cumani, looks the main danger.

DONCASTER 3.10: With the wthdrawal of the classy filly Elegant Warning, the path is clear for JO MELL. Olivier Pesiier's mount defeated a high-ly competitive field of handicappers to land a big prize at Ascot last time out and is likely to be a short-priced favourite this afternoon. Nigrasine would be suited by the ground dry-

HYPERION'S TV TIPS

3.40: Mick Kinane has opted to ride SARATOGA SPRINGS and that choice looks significant. He warmed up for today's task with an effortless victory at the Curragh a week ago. Kinane could instead have ridden Kilimanjaro. John Reid takes over on this colt who won so impressively at Sandown He was only fourth when favourite at Ascot last time, but that defeat should be excused because it was such a muddling race.

4.15: A tough event for punters, with almost all the runners capable of winning. Shawdon was touched off over five furlongs at Newmarket last time but has three victories to his credit over today's distance of six furlones. Robert Armstrong's yard has produced several good winners of late and IKHTEYAAR seems sure to make a bold bid here.

200 4.45: Zerpour is from a shrewd stable and bookmakers are taking few chances with this one's price in morning lists. The handicapper may also be erring on the side of caution however. AL AZHAR makes more appeal at doublefigure odds. This colt has won twice at a mile and steps into unknown territor, here, but he possesses plenty of ability.

	1987	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96
Pata of the favourites:	3	4_	1	1-4	_1_	1	. 5	1	3	_ 3
Winner's place in bettin	g: 3	2	1	1jt	1	1	3	1	2	0
Starting prices:	7-1	10-3	4-7	2-1	2-1	5-4	9-2	1-1	11-4	14-1
Profit or loss to £1 stai	os: Fev	متاسو	s +9	132. 8	econ	d Favo	بملأس	-£194	2	
Parcentage of winners	placed	ist,	2nd o	r 3rd i	n lest	face;	80%			
Shortest-priced winner	Bo M	y Chie	14-7 (1989)						
Longest-priced winner:	Medea	ıly 14-1	1 (199	5)			ř	t = jok	nt-favoi	,rite
Top trainer: H Cecil - Be Theatre (1993)	My C	rief (19	89), P	eter D	avies (1990).	Annig	er (199	2) & K	ngs
					reb (*					

FIRST SHOW

Busy Flork

Thrutan's Melody

Perstact Saknon Ladder Proper Blue Buddy Marvel

New	bury -	_ 2.00		Doncaster — 3.40
Hussa	C	H	<u>T</u>	House C H L T
Prince Of Dunial	11-2	9-2	92	Kilimanjero 5-2 4-1 7-2 4-1
تعاقا	6-1	71-2	5-1	Modeer 92 41 92 41
Stramo	13-2	13-2	B-1	Saratoga Springs 9-2 9-2 4-1 9-2
Consort	13-2	8-1	7-1	Mutemen 11-2 5-1 6-1 71-2
Right Wing	13-2	9-1	9-1	Little Indian 7-1 7-1 7-1 5-1
Znilizine	B-1	8 <u>-1</u>	9-1	Conjustment 13-2 13-2 8-1 6-1
Concertin	11-1	10-1	12-1	Mountain Song 11-1 8-1 5-1 10-1
Grief	14-1	12-1	12-1	Quiet Assurance 14-1 10-1 14-1 12-1
Micure	12-1	14-1	12-1	Each way a lith the odds, places 1, 2, 3
Accepter Time	20-1	14-1	16-1	C - Coral H - Wilgon Hill L - Lacholes, T - Tole
Rapier	16-1	20-1	20-1	
ChelYb	25-1	16-1	20-1	
Polar Flight	20-1	<u>25-1</u>	25-1	Doncaster — 4.45
Caszy Chile!	25-1	33-1	33-1	
Welton Amenal	33-1	33-1	33-1	Horse C H L 7
Each way a que	ader the o	dds olaces	123	Zerpour 4-1 10-3 7-2 3-1
				Continue Delevance 0.1 D.3 0.1 16.1

Each way a quater the colds, places 1, 2, 3				Zerpour	_4-1	10
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IACAL	, — <u>—</u>			Civil Liberty	9-1	9
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usy Flight	94	<u>94</u> (Pinchinche	14-1	14
diana	3-1	3-1		Teerajos	14-1	12
	6 -1	11-2		Double Alleged	16-1	16
udan's Melody	8-1	8-1		Peksy	18-1	74
	9-1	9-1		Verkden	9-1	16
erstad	8-1	10-1		NicGilyandiy Pada	20-1	20
aknon Ladder	14-1	14-1		Tyrologo Dream	20-1	18
roper Blue	16-1	16-1		Hill Fernt Blues	20-1	20
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L	ON	IGCHAMP – SUNDAY
2	.40	PRIX ROYAL-OAK (Group One) £76,318 added 1m 7. Penalty Value £44,893
1	562520	NOTHIN' LEICA DAME (21) (Daton Hodge Syndicale) J. Hammond 5.9.4 T. Jannet B
2	24433	FURTHER FLIGHT (22) (D) (S Winglied Digby) 8 HBs(UK) 11 94
3	-11105	STRETAREZ (FR) (49) (CD) (J L Lagarden) D Sepuiche 494
4	-2314	OSCAR SCHINDLER (21) (O Lehane) K Prendergast(RE) 5 9 4 C Asmussen 10
5	0-6663	BAHAMAN KNEGHT (44) (Lucayan Stud) R Aliehussi (GE) 494
6	-63122	DOUBLE SCLIPSE (22) (CD) (M. Partnership) M Johnston (GB) 5.9 4
7	200321	GREY SHOT (22) (CD) (J C Smith) Balding(UK) 5 9 4T Qolon 1
В		SNOW PRINCESS (15) (D) (SF) (Lord Weststock) Lord Hunfingdon (GB) 591 . K Pallon 4
9		CAMPORESE (56) (M Tabor) P Crepple-Hyam(UK) 491
10	13610	EBAD(YLA (21) (S A Age Khen) J Occ(RE) 3 8 6
ıπ		SILVER FUN (42) (C) (Worthelmer at Franc) Mirre C Head 3 8 8 O Doleuze 2
		- 11 declared -
BET	TING: 13-	8 Oacar Schindler, 4-1 Gray Shot, 5-1 Double Ecilote, 7-1 Camporese, 8-1 Ebediy

is, 16-1 Notice Leice Dane, Further Flight, Stretansz, 18-1 Snow Princess, Silver Fan. 50-1 Be 1988: Red Roses Story 4 9 1 V Vion 6-1 (Mine Pat Barbe) drawn (f) 5 ran

MARKET RASEN

HYPERION 2.15 Oakbury 2.45 Shining Edge 315 Couchant 3.50 Highbeath 4.20 Almuhtaram 4.50 Symbol Of Success 5.20 Bigsound

BETTING: 3-1 Court Lane, 7-2 Millionth, 9-2 Bristol Cherest, 13-2 Leggers, 9-1 Amabel, 10-1 Arctic Alç, Friendly Warring, 12-1 Admire, Fleeding, Red Leggings, 14-1 Swing State, 16-1 Millionemer Chance, 33-1 Maylan

Chance, 33-1 Maylan
1996: Booken 6 & A Clark 10-7 (8 Hills) drawn (9) 9 ran
FORM GUIDE
COURT LANE showed the benefit of her debut third to Ollin and subsequent Teeside
Inophy winner Grazia when coming home by rine lengths in the mud at Apr (8) and should
get the longer trip. Shes by Machiavellian and the second foel of Cherry Hinton heroins
Chicanca. Millmah made it third time lucky when striking form with a vengeance at York.
Making virtually all, the daughter of Queen Anne winner Lailib quicknessed away in the closning stages to stam Love Academy five lengths. That and Minnah's previous Ripon second behind Aix En Provence at Ripon were over six but she was going on well at the
finish when a fourth to Sharp Play at York.

Selection: COURT LANE

2.00 RECRUIT EMPLOYMENT SERVICES RATED HANDICAP (CLASS B) £12,000 1m 11 £8,391

1 008035 WECANA (14) (CD) (1 G Warms) P Match 697 A Cark 1 B 100 Eng. 100 (14) (CD) (1 G Warms) P Match 697 A Cark 1 B 100 Eng. 100 (14) (CD) (1 Eng. 100 (14) (CD) (CD) (14) (C

GOING: Good

Fight-hand, sterp, undulating circuit. Run-in of one furlorg.

Course is E of town on A631. Market Resenstation (Lincoin - Grims-by Ine) In. ADMINSSION: Club £1250. Tetersals £250. Sher Ring St. CAR PARK: Free.

LEADING TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley 21-89 (236%), M Pipe 15-62 (242%), K Morgan 14-109 (125%), K Beiley 13-41 (317%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: N Williamson 21-81 (259%), L Wyer 19-95 (20%), P Niven 18-109 (155%), A S Smith 17-127 (13.4%).

FAVOURITIES: 195-558 (34.9%).
BLINGSHED FIRST TIME: Opera Fan (visoredo (215), Princety Altair (215).

2	.15	CALDERPRINT SELLING H'CAP HURDL (CLASS G) £2,400 added 2m 1f 110yd	
$\overline{}$			
ż	0.4088	OPERA FAN (SQ K Morgan 5 tt 5	3
3			
ā.			
5	OOO.	AFRICAN SUN (F3) M Crepmen 4 10 5	١
6	PR3P/	APRICAN SUR (13) IN Creation	
7			
-	- مرود	PORT VALENSKA (17) JA Harris 4 10 0S Taylor (5)	ı
8	2-0030	POHI VALENSIVA (11) JAN FISH PAR TO CO.	

سهرو معاد

-a secures -Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Oakbury 9st 13th, Port Valen-sko 9st 6th. BETTING: 2-1 John Tulty, 100-30 Xaipete, 8-2 Opera Fax, 9-1 Logie, 10-1 African Sun, Oekkury, 12-1 Princely Affair, Port Valentin 2.45 UK HYGIENE FOR SMOKE FILTRATION' NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,500 added 2m 1f 110yds

_A Clark 1 B 100

3.15 KAREN & ALAN STONE WEDDING DAY HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 3m

抽解极 BEITHIG: evens Couchant, 5-2 Copper Coll, 5-1 Smith Too, 7-1 Posteredra, 3.50 TOTE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D)

F2N/ HERMES HARMEST (31) (3) D Williams 9 11 71. Mr S Dosack (7)
P224-5 JAMES PROG (36) (3) M Pop 10 11 4. ______ A P McCoy
SSSS2 PMS GLAWER (15) (5) M I harmond 9 10 75. _____ R Gentlay
21F-F RHOSSLI BAY (22) (5) Mis M Reveloy 9 10 ... GLab (3)
5311-1 HIGHSEATH (26) (5) Mis M Reveloy 6 10 8 _____ P Nives -5 dectared - 2
BETTING: 8-4 Highbooth, 7-2 Rhouse Bay, 4-1 Plans Games, 9-2 James 3
Plag. 10-1 Herman Harvest

4.20 UK HYGIENE 'FOR HANDRIERS' MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,200 added 2m 1f 110yds 2 ALMUHTARAM (23) G Lewis 5 ft 5.

BETTING: 9-4 Traceability, 3-7 Parly Animal, 9-2 Almeiningum, 8-1 Golden Thumderbolk, 10-1 Shark, 12-1 As You Like it, Copper Mountain, 14-1 indiane Princium, 16-1 Knasnik, Virtuge Classic, Cantibul Beauty, Your The Limit, 20-1 others 4.50 ILLIMAH INTERNATIONAL/PARK SOCIAL NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E)

£4.500 added 2m 6f 110yds

— 9 declared —
46ránum weight: 14st. True handicep weights: Tudor Fellow Set 12th, Generaler Set 8th, Double Achievement Set 8th, Double Achievement Set 8th, Declared Set 8th, Double Achievement Set 8th, Declared Set 8th, Double Achievement Set 8th, Set 9th, Set 5.20 CALDERPRINT AUTUMN MAIDEN OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,500 added 1m 5f 110yds BETTING: 8-4 Bigscund, 11-4 Totan Fola, 5-1 Paacamaker, 6-1 Steeling 8-1 Look Starper, 12-1 One Fine Man, 20-7 others

La-Faah is 33-1 for Guineas

La-Faah, who was relatively unconsidered, even by his own vard, before he set foot on Newbury's turf yesterday, took 90 seconds to convince everyone he was Classic material. Barry Hills's colt is now as low as 25-1 for the 1998 2,000 Guineas (Coral go 33-1) after a pleasing success in the Horris Hill Stakes. "He's much better than

I thought," Hills said. The disappointment of the race was the favourite, Duck Row, who pulled violently in the early stages and then fizzled out like a cheap firework. His Derby odds were pushed out to 40-1. "He ran a bit flat," his trainer, James Toller, observed. "My horses have been out of sorts but I thought he would be okay. The answer must be that when you are in two minds you should take the cautious route because now I regret running."

The 2,000 Guineas ante-

THE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES 0891 261 + LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS DONCASTER 971 981 | DOM: | 972 | 983 | 983 | 984 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 | 985 MARKET RASEN 975 985 ALL COURSES RESULTS 0891 261 970 Cafe cost 50p per minute. TLS. plc, Scrutture St RCZA 4P

post market had been stirred

earlier at Doncaster when God-

olphin's Zaya made an im-

pressive winning debut. The

pre-race whisper was that the

son of Zafonic had ability and

temperament in equal measure,

but he exhibited only the for-

mer in making all. William Hill

Richard Edmondson

Yesterday's results, page 21

go 33-1 for the Guineas.

SLEEPLESS IN SUSSEX

YOU'LL NEVER

NORTH WEST MALE
Tail, active, reliable male, 63,
missing the amilty of a happy,
informed lady, to go out/stay in
with and more. 25:3143

MUSIJM MAN
Genuins, sustworthy, muslim male, 33, enjoys the good things in file, seeks honest, attractive, stim temple, 20-30, for intendsity, possible marriage, 20-321
TIDE AGAINST THE SHORE Professional graduate 34, 5

LOST AND FOUND

Male actor, 34, seeks sincers temale, any age/nationality, for long-term relationship. London.

STARTING AGAIN
Male, 35, lost most intends due
to divorce, saeks Wirrel ternale.

to divorce, seems within remaind for triendship and whetever the huure holds. 272953

LOADS OF BAD HABITS!

LOADS OF BAD HABITS!
Sim. caring, kind, attractive
male, 35, smoker, good eyes,
GSOH, into sport, cinema,
music, cooking, seaks slim,
attractive female, GSOH
essential, lor friendship/relationship. 72:2970

HARRISON FORD
Change hapon-go-fucky

NAMHES-IN FURUI Outgoing. happy-go-lucky male. 35. 5"1", enjoys cinema, theatre, reading, travel, music, seeks attractive, intelligent, sin-gle female. 29-35, with similar interests, for intendship/rela-

interests, for friendship/rela-tionship. London area. 27:2914 GENUINE AND CARING Easygong, tall, slim male grad-uale. 35, links restuarants, trests despendent of the control of the con

bers, London fife, seeks dow

SEEKING

MEN

MYSTERIOUS MALE?

Male seeks male, for romantic evenings and maybe long-term relationship, intrigued call to learn more! Middlesex.

LONDON MALE

riess, seeks mature male, 304. Irland for life. Appreciate Integrity. 183181

ADVENTUROUS

LINCS MALE

ed, gay male, for evenings, pub crawls, history days out. \$33137

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

SUSSEX COAST LADY SUSSEX COAST LADY
Attractive, warm, carng, soucated, slim widow, mid-60s,
many interests, seeks professonal/academic male, for
friendship, possible relationstyp, 23:145
COMPANIONSHIP! Good-humoured, toving, kind, peaceful and understanding ternale, seeks male, 70-80, any nationality, for mendating, possi-

STYLISH & SPARKLING STYLISH & SPANKLING
Attractive, stylish, brunette
lady, 43, looks younger, no tesenjoys uravel and adventue,
seeks professional male, 3549, N/S, with similar interests,
for inendsinprielationship.
Aberdeen area, 123167
ADVENTUROUS
COMPANION WANTED
COMPANION WANTED
AD you an attreetituous, affect

COMPANION WANTED
Are you an adventurous, affectionale? Well-educated male, 35-45? Are you interested in the great outdoor? Do you want to trave to more exotic places? Female, 30s. seeks you, for frightship/nomance. TS1134 SAILOR AHOY!

SALOR AHOY!

Friendly, professional, tall, sim, asian lemale, 25. enjoys saling, Lable-ternis, theatre, seeks practical male, GSOH, with similar interests, 25-35, for hendship, possible relationship, London/SE area. 27:332

TIRED OF COOKING FOR ONE?

Me not, Adventurous, attractive temale, 28, seeks tall, fun-loving male, 28-38, for thendship relationship, likes oriente, pubs, intelligent conversation, travel, Independent On Sunday, hope you do too. Wyfortshire, 23:3161

FEY BRUNETTE

Attractive, very loving, intelligent

FEY BRUNETTE
Attractive, very bying, intelligent lemale, 29, a intile eccening, adores animals, music, country-sole, esoteric arts, having tun, seeks protective, humorous, mielligent, well-bred male, 36-42, to watch the stars. Glastonbury area, 253178

stars. Glastonbury area.

133178

TOTAL WOMAN
SEEKS TOTAL MAN
Are you tall, handsome,
mature, professional, active,
smgle male, 35-457 I am a shgle, black, classy, exotic, educated and open-minded
female, 57, 32. Race not an
issue. 133156

FAIR-HAIRED
Sam. Anglo Italian lemale, 32. Shim, Anglo-Italian lemale, 32, kwing in the Putney area, would

mainneed male, of a similar age, for a long-term happy relationship. 253182

TWO'S COMPANY
Are you 6'+, fair, medium build, fun-loving, independent, solvent, N/S, 35-40'f Then this lair temale, 35, 5'1', would like to hear from you! 253177

SEEKING A FRIEND

Chinese formals 33 sturbing in Chinese female, 33, studying in UK, enjoys music, reading. Times and travel, seeks professional, honest, educated, tall. s warm, communicative, ssional male, to share cul-

interesting conversation. NW area 17:3168

LADY SEEKS
ROMAN CATHOLIC...
or stayed RVC gentisman. for possible romanca. My interests: music, poetry, dining out, walks, nature, theatre, cinema. home life. Are you a geruine, kind. koving sout, 25-487 South West area. 17:3160

CHRISTIAN FEMALE
Professional, Christian remale. CHRISTIAN PENALE
Professional, Christian lemale,
30s, enjoys theatre, music,
swimming, seeks Christian
male, 30-45, GSOH, N/S, for
furn and friendship, London
area, \$73157

GREAT MINDS THINK ALIKE GREAL MINUS LITHER AND CONTROL IN MINUS LITHER AND CONTROL

tionship. NW Mancheste 273121 SOUL MATE REQUIRED Lovely, stim, ethractive, profes-sional tady, occasional smoker, looking for love, seeks emotion-ally aware, professional male, 44-54. Hantordshire area. 173176

FEMINENE GRADUATE
Executive, stylish, sim, attractive, very affectionate and strcere ternale, young 40s, loves
music and the arts, seeks male,
42-50, executive/professional, 42-50, executive/professional, with similar qualibles, for permanent, happy relationship. Fythe coast area. 153118

SUPREY LADY
Attractive, slim, fit. female. 45. seeks rock climbing companion, for occasional outrings, England/Wales, good looks, intelligence appreciated too. 153124

SIMPLY THE BEST
Creative, humane, black lady.

SIMPLY THE BEST Creative, humane, black lady, enjoys travel, laughter, current attaits, cycling, chema, cooking, seeks tun-bowng, bright, creative, black/muxed race maje, 38-48, with individually and warmith. London area. 37:3151

and warmin. London area.

23151

SEEKING

SOMEONE SPECIAL
independent, educated lady,
erloys travel, keep fit, criema,
countryside, seeks kind, genume, professional male, 50-80,
for friendship, possibly more.
Summy area. 123162

ARE YOU THE ONE?
Vegetarian female, 40-something, interesta include medicalion, classical music, health
issues, seeks vegetarian
inclined male, of similar age.
23142

BIRMINGHAM AREA
Warm, creative, energetic
female, 51, loves the arts, lite
and people, enjoys danding,
walking, good conversation,
seeks sensitive, unconventional, young at heart male.
123163

GRADUATE WOMAN...
...seeks man who temembers,
The Beatles. The Excila. The

...seeks man who remembers, The Beatles. The Eagle, The Appleyandes. He's profession-al, solvent, grammer school educated, tree to enter wholeeducated, trea to enter whole-hearted serious relationship. Leo/sagittarius would do. She is lovely, turny and serious too. 97:3125

Don't Forget Place your awa Voice enancis" ad les FREE as 0800 216 318 ATTRACTIVE FEMALE

ATTRACTIVE FEMALE Warm, compasionate, canng, bi-lingual, silm female, 30e, educated to degree level, enjoys poetry, embrodery, castive writing, seeking attractive, warm, sincere, romantic, protessional male, 35–15, for intendiship, possibly more, 472956

50UTH SOMERSET

SPIRITUALITY & SCALALISM
Blonde, attractive lemale
English graduate, late 30s, who
loves books and politics, seeks
ganuine, witty male, who
whates the same indexests and
others. London/Herts area.

ALL THE USUAL Active, bubbby, fit, furry, enthustastic, charming lady, 40, sealing male, whatever age, tor??? Call to find out more. Million Keynes/Bods, 1572942

Any Covers type statistics in 1222 and my specific statistics from 1200 215 312

NORTHERN CELT Sam, attractive female, 40s, dark hair, pale skin, green syes, seeks realingent, good-looking male, to shee interests in articinema, travel, walking, drinking, sating. London based, 972020. SEEKING A PRIEND

SEEKING A FRIEND
Divorced, slim, attractive university teacher & Inquist, 43, 55°, from West Yorksike, loves cuffure, conversation, laughter, films, walking, most sports, peace, beauty and tun, seeks male, 35-50, N/S. with similar interesta/background. 572860

PEOPLE PERSON
Very outgoing temale, 46, medium build, 53°, likes swinning, eating outfun, dancing, socialising, music, theatre, good things in tile, seeks male, 38-50, medium/large build, with good personality, for friend-ship/melationship. \$72371
CAN YOU VALUE ME?
I am a confident and shoots,

. I am a confident and sincere. STAR IN THE NIGHT SKY STAN IN THE NETT SKY
A happy, Interesting woman,
wishes to meet a man, 47-52.
Tim educated, professional,
sim, have wide horizons, active
lifestyle. You will be similar and

lifestyle. You will be similar and have twinking eyes loo. South Wates. \$2972 COTSWOLD CUTTE independent, smaley, caring woman, 51, seeks smiler male, soul male, for fun/laughter/smelling the roses. Oxfordshire based. \$22917

TALL BLONDE...

...foves the arts, rown & country, zen, salling, travel, jazz and glamout, seeks nomance with warm, withy male, up to 62.
London. 122935
MUSICAL PARTNER
Coathle marting warm hample Creative, musical, warm female divorcee, lives in delightful divorcee, lives in delightful country cottage, enjoys music, theatre, gardering, seeks metigent soul mate, 45-65, for lasting relationship. Cambridge area. 12:2924

RURAL GLOUCS & MOBILE Warm, responsive lemate, 50ish, seeks solvent, energetic, serdiar male, consected to his tunny bone, and maybe with a sunny bone, and maybe with 3

serdar male, consected to his tunny bone, and maybe with a wild streak to balance his groundedness. \$2257
EXCTER PROFESSIONAL Dark-haired, stim, articulate, independent, educated tentale. \$5.55°, many interests, including travel, radio, chrema, literature, seels like-minded male companion. \$2284

BITELIGENT
MAN REQUIRED MAN REQUIRED MAN RECURRED
Cheeful, outgoing, reasonably
presentable lady, 61, 5'9",
GSOH, N/S, enjoys history,
reading, friends, seeks professional, reasonably presentable
mate, 58+, 6', for friendishlo,
possible relationship. 27/2982
MAKE ME LAUGH
Marm afterchies, ship, essyano-Warm. attractive. silm, easygo-

trings in life, seeks contident, friendly, tall man, 50-60, for fun, friendship, maybe more. peacetul and understanding temale, seeks male, 70-80, any nationality, for Irlandship, possi-

ONE IN A MILLION essional, stylish, black ale, 5'10", with GSOH, as soonlaneous male, 33seeks spontaneous male, 33-39, N/S, for fun and romance. London. 222945

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Articulate, attractive, enjoys waking, talking, theatre, music, chrim, seeks single, sare, solvent, sociable male, 35-. Could we be compatible? "12:961
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Female, 31, likes music, books, cinema, seeks Oxfort-educated, sociable, sincere, honest male, 30-35, should possess (SSOH, for friendship and reta-

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tionship. Durham/London are \$2978 FANCY A CHALLENGE? FANCY A CHALLERBUR!
Cutgoing, intelligent, genuine,
fun-loving female, 34, 5'6',
enjoys archeology, museums,
clubs, pache, enjoys like to the
full, seeks tall, attractive, intelligent mote, GSOH, with similar
interests, for friendship, possible relationship, 25'2934
pursus y we Rejstol. Dark-skinned terrale, GSOH, enjoys travelling, sport, theatre, country pubs, seeks gentle-man, 45-65, for friendship and

PARTINEH FOR LIFE SIIm, attractive, divarced. African lady, 35, GSOH, with one son, varied interests, seeks genuine, kind, honest, romanic, tamily loving, profession-elitushessman, 40+, kor long-lam commitment. No time-wasters please. London aree. 372958

GORGEOUS CELLIST professional male, to share cultural pursuits, country walks, interesting conversation. NW area. \$22916

GOOSEBERRY!
Independent intelligent, ettractive, winy, throughtful, sporty,
unblichy lemele, 33, 575, seeks
athletic, intelligent, professional, interesting & huntorous,
honourable male, 30-40ish,
5111**, masculine not neanderthal, for triendship linst.
Moort Sieste hazard 172074 West Sussex based. 13 2974 SOMEONE SPECIAL

Very attractive, slim, affection-ate, lively, professional, dworced lady, mid-30s, 518, no children, N/S, GSOH, likes countryside, walking, restaurants, cinema, fun, seeks taller rants, chema, fun, seeks taller, professional gent, under 45. ELanos/N Yorks area. 37:2925 SEEKING WONDERFUL MAN Petitle, effectionate & caring, professional female, young 36, seeks handsome, intelligent male, 35-45, for companion-chindrelatorship. 27:2550 45, interested in the arts, the

Seeking affectionate, outgoing, adventurous male, for mendship and romance. 122755 SEEKING SOMEONE SPECIAL Affectionate, tall, non-British, divorced, beautiful, fit lady, enjoying own successful business and lovely cosy home, is still searching for you: fit, attractive, strong and sensitive male, 42-48, over 6°1°. \$22718

MEN SEEKING WOMEN EAST SUSSEX, WEST KENT
Liberate, older, left-wing, artist
designer, very busy indoors,
and out in the woods planting,
telling, logging, prefers
women's company, especially
those with dark relativese,
preferably NVS, for a released,
intentity relationship. T23130
T3310

friendly relationship. 223130 ALTERNATIVE L'AMOUR? Kind, fit, essygoing, attractive, professional, Indian male, 38, professional, Indian male, 38, 6°, enjoys laughing, yoga, alternative therapy, theatre, travel, seeks shrammadium-builk, warm female, any nationality, bor Fig. 175

IN OR CUT OF LONDON
Tell, slim, well travelled, comentionale, recently returned from abroad, looking for furt-loving but kind female companion, 28-

mean korms, passion for with conversation & pizza, seeks KING SPORTY FEMALE

Male, early 20s, seeks sincere, attractive female, to share good innes and life with. 273135 2 WHEELS SHOFT? genuine, professiona graduate, 28, enjoys Leeds area. 223112

MERSEYSIDE AREA

MERSEYSIDE AREA
Single male, 35, moderately
intelligent, GSOH, NS, enjoye
traveiling, eating out, seeks
similar leady, for friendship/relationship, #23153
MEDLANDS MAN
Sincere, loyal, romantic, intelligent, good-looking, withy male,
28, 6°, enjoye theatre, dining
out, walking, cinema, conversation, seeks similar temple, no
ties, for fun, friendship/relationsito, Will travel. #23165
TOP OF THE RANGE
Warm, angaging, easygoing,

TOP OF THE RANGE
Warm, engaging, easygoing, successful. Asken male, orloys good wine, energetic sports, theater and real trees, selectively and the selection of complete the picture, race not important, personality important. 223113

SEEKING
SROWN-EYED GIPI.
Nearly 30-something, Celtichton male, chunky sub-dooter, seeks northern lass, 25-35, for long, meandering evenings of alcohol, with mad mornings to follow. Merseyside/NW England. 223118
ATTRACTIVE ASIAN GUY
Well-butt 8 attractive, Asian male, 29, 578, with VGSOH, likes socialising, music, cine-

23141 Go on, contact me, you never nothing to lose, except your sanity! 17:3150

BY NAME IS ROBERT
Single male, 39, 54", brown/ blue, interests include, theetre, cinema, socialising, conversation, seeks lady, 30-40, for trendship, with a view to conserve \$73:12". & RESTAURANT?
Tall, sim, professional mele,
30, with a pile of Arena magazines, seeks Marke Claire reading lemale. London area. Must be intelligent/independent and
have a sense of lun. <u>PS3171</u>

DARE YOU!

Engelish leader rate. 31 672

Sem, NS, GSOH, seeks glarr-orous, terminine, elegant female, 35-45, sense of tun, for tun and laughter. \$33165 YOUNG AT HEARY MALE Male 31, enjoys music arts, sports, travel, seeks profes-sional lady, for fun and romance, S.E. London/Kant

Professional male, wrong aide of 50, seeks lady, 35-45, unel-technique mother, for genuine long-tarm relationship. 101 n. 0000 215 318 YOU'LL NEVER
WALK ALONE
Professional, kind, warm,
humarous, SW Herts male
teacher, mid-50s, many instru-KENTISH MALE teacher, mid-50s, many institutions, enjoys sport, theatre, cheme, reading, music, wighting, saeks sheppiny female, for issting relationship. 27:3170

NORTH WEST MALE
Tall control sells sale sale

Yoristine area. 13'3144
ASKING THE IMPOSSIBLE
Romanic, humorous, crestive
male, 33, variety of interests,
seeks what seems to be impossible, sophisticated, quality
lady, with varied interests, presence and GSOH, to share best
of the thirtheir even. 13'21'46'

ence and SSOH, to share best of the Yorkshire area. 173149
MEET NE IN THE GREEN GLEN Maie actor, 34, seeks shoers female, any againstionality, for long-term relationship. London ages. 173158
OH NO! IT'S CURLY WATTS! Furry, intelligent, different, single state, 34, seeks woman, 27-36, for love and big northern yowed exchange. S YorksiN Derbyshire. 173180.

WEEKEND MALE
Male, 34, seeks female, for fun. Male, 34, seeks temale, for tun, friendship, laughter. Midlands area. All calls answered.

THIS GOOD MAN....

records, an open weeks to area. An calls answered.

13:38

CARING AND COMMITTED Professional male. 30s, 5°10°, erloys cycling, walking, photography, reading, seeks professional, sincere ternale, similar age, for days outlevenings in Cardbs area. 273:28

DISELLISIONED MALE

I alia hawas' tound what I'm toolding for, Tall, silm, affectionate, byal male, GSOH, NS. searching for the light of my life, sim ternale, 23:33 (sh), for that special feeling. 13:34.7

BOHERIAN BIOLOGIST Shy, sensitive, very attractive, sophisticated, country boy, young 36, 5°11", into love, affection, wine, walls, travel, yoge, languages, seeks billish, intelligent, siren/scorpic, 25-40, any area/country. Oxford based.

area/country. Oxford based.

19319

HANTS, S.GLOCS,
WILTS AREA

Bright, caring, attractive, slightly unconventional male, mid30s, wide interest, including the arts, revet, stimulating conversation, music, books, long walls, fleskie chess, seeks heany. attractive, porqueous

walks, fireakie chess, seeks happy, attractive, porgeous female, for mutuiti growth. 23:3131

OUTDOORSY MALE Reliable, solvent, honest, sporty male, 37, slim build, likes numing, countryside health, environmental issues, suploring mey places, seeks terraile, N/S, with similar interests, for tun and friendship. 27:3154 CAMBRIDGE MALE

CAMBIBDIGE MALE
Tall, professional, Asian chap,
38, seeks elegant, intelligent
chapess, 28-35, for fun, travel
and wild times. Any area/
nationality. 27:3123 PISCEAN SEEKS SOUL MATE Merseyade male, 38, seeks soul mase, to share good times. Not exactly a pin-up, but charming, why and lots more! Go on, contact me, you have

CHESHIRE MALE CITESHIRE MALE
Attractive, professional, sincere, inclain male 38, 5°10°,
enjoys outdoors, reading, bavel
seeks attractive, professional,
gentie, caring famale, 30s. for
genuine, lasting relationship.
12:3183

KENTSH MALE
Enigmatic but sincere, dependable male, 40, 511°, enjoys
tood, drink, opera, travel, seeks
Europeen/British/Asian temate,
who won't late me too seriously, for possible relationship,
Kent/SE London area 123155
WEST COUNTRY MALE
Single, professional male, early
40s, 510°, reasonable books,
Into music, clinema, theatre,
countryside, pravel, seeks single lemale, 30-40, no ties, with
amiliar interests, for lesting
relationship. 123133
PROFESSIONAL
SPORTSMAN
Nice-booking, ambitious male,
works abroadthome, 42, pleasart attitude, 51°, but missing a
special, sincere tody, 35-45,
who must like animals, traveling, N Yorkshire area. 123129

who must like animals, mavel-ing. N Vorkshire area. 233129
NORFOLK KNIGHT
Essygoing male. 43, 5'11", N/s, average build, GSOH, toves the N Norfort coast, sport, music, good food, line ale, great conversation, seeks similar lady, for friendship/relationship, possibly more. 273184
NON-MATERIALIST
Non-materialist, not rich/nat NON-MATERIALIST
Non-materialist, not heh/not poor, 3 shered kids, 64°, 44, enjoys taiking, smoking, chinking, politics, history, idleness, seeks romance. 5 Yorkshire grea. T3172
CALLING
SOUTHEAST LADY
Professional male, likes outdoor activities, travel, saeks female, for companionship/frendehip. T3152
SOLO IN THE WIRRAL
Tall, black male musician seeks.

remaile, for compensate principals, 23-15.

SOLO IN THE WIRRAL
Tall, black male musician seeks tal, sim, white lemsle, 28-36, who is genuine and shorers, for irendahlp, possible relationship, 253122

RATIONALITY
AN ADVANTAGE
Emotional depth desirable, interests in dencing essential, good looks the icing. Academic/businessman, 40s. 57', seeks temple, 38-43, to like with. Can teach. 253173

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dancing, pubs, clubs, serous
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events/dog races, 127-2964

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17/PHOTO-SHOOT



Gas Unlimited (above, and bottom photograph) speeds towards the shore after breaking the national liquid propane record at an average speed of 96.34 mph





Four world powerboat records and four national records were broken or set during the annual Powerboat Record Attempts Week on Windermere.

The highlight of the week was the achievement of Jim Noone, 39, a Windermere Motor Boat Club member

dermere Motor Boat Club member from Leeds, who fulfilled his ambition to become the fastest man on Windermere. He raced over the lake in his hydroplane "Miss Windermere VI" at

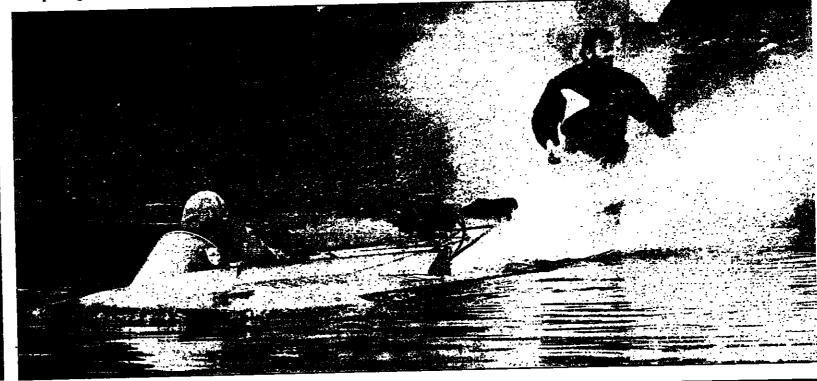
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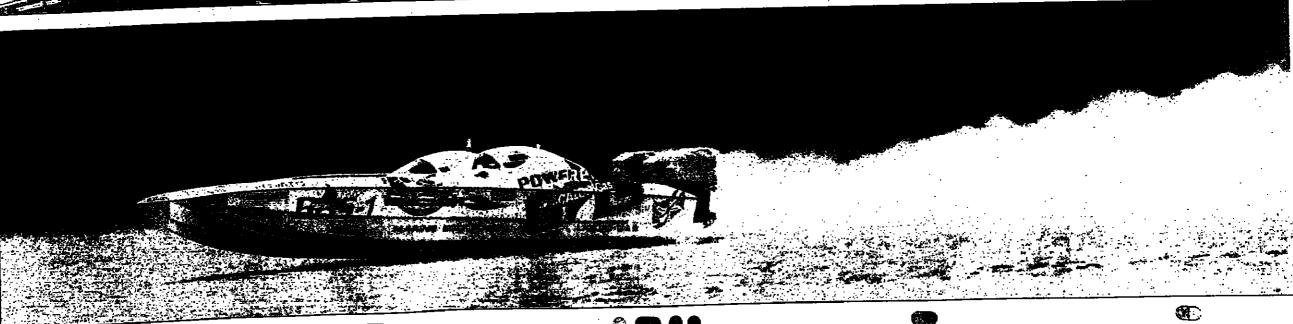
145.52mph to break the 14-year-old lake record of 144.16mph. In doing so he also broke the world record for Class R racing inboards of over 700cc, which had been set only this summer at 132.76mph.

Oppies of these photographs – and any others by *The Independent's* sports photographers David Ashdown, Peter Jay and Robert Hallam – can be ordered by telephoning 0171-293-2534.



While speed merchants on the lake (top) have eyes on records, the timers, like the one above and left, checi them at the flying kilometre, an easier job than being a helper (below) or sorting out engines (below left







MIKE ROWBOTTOM

ON NOT KNOWING THE SCORE

Life, as any major sportsman match in Italy. As a non-sub- a-free-kick mode - they also gap, even though the noise risthan once - is all about

(Why does life have to be "all about" in sporting parlance? Why can it never be "partly about", or "sometimes about"? I don't know, but there it is.)

All about challenges. No pain, no gain. If you don't go for it, you'll only be left wondering.

Now you may not describe a five-minute walk up the road on a Saturday night as a challeage, but these things are all about - if I may use that term - the circumstances. And the ly straightforward stroll were

It was the night of England's decisive World Cup

will tell you - probably more scriber to Sky, I was dependent shout a lot. The brown female es to barely survivable levels as cat food.

denly lose all co-ordination mouth. when returning the ball for an cats become clumsy when

Wherever you turn, there And again. they are, tripping over your feet. Or swishing things off the table with their tails. Or weavcircumstances of my seeming- back, inhibiting your every times succeeded in checking stride with supernatural

upon ITV's later screening of one produces a bat-squeak it is being dished out. But this the match. I was obviously that pierces clean through to method is ineffective if, as was keen not to hear the score in the inner ear. In footballing advance. And we needed some parlance, it is all done with the question, you have no fish only be left wondering how long minimum of backlift - she Like footballers who sud- hardly seems to open her

The grey, male one creates opponents' free-kick, our two a woeful, wailing sound that hungry. At least, it seems that before dying away into a parched cry. Again. And again.

I have worked on strategies to deal with this situation. Repeated use of the phrase "In ing in front of you as if they a minute!", with the variant "I were dodging bullets, ears said 'In a minute!" has somethe row. But not for long. Fish fingers - it doesn't

At such times - again, like matter what make - can be footballers in opponents-have- effectively deployed as a stop-

the case on the Saturday in

You can, of course decide simply to ignore all the fuss. Settle down on the sofa, consult the TV schedules if the cat forms a crescendo of pain will kindly get off the newspaper - thankyousomuch - turn up the volume to counteract the yelling of the cat. Cats. Shoo them away. Relax, relax for Christ's sake. Ignore the rustling sound in the next room which possibly isn't the grey one having a revenge piss in the

> send your niece her birthday present. But probably is... This method has also been demonstrated to be ineffective.

> bubble wrap you need to use to

solution to noisy, bothersome, hungry cats, and that is to feed them double-quick. If you don't go for it. I thought, you'll you can stand it.

Thus it was that I put on my coat and set out into a rainy evening fraught with potential danger. Some youths - a newspaper term for young people enjoying themselves - were making their way down the hill on the opposite side of the road, clearly between pubs.

That noisiness. Was it perhaps a good sign? Or had they been drowning their sorrows? Had their last pub had Sky? What if they started chanting the score? Rowdily, but inconclusively, they passed.

I walked on briskly, avoiding looking at the houses on

There is only one reliable either side whose lit windows might disclose a domestic tableaux of scarf-waving celebrations or abandoned grief.

A car accelerated extravagantly as it turned into the road. Please don't give a victory on offer?" beep. Thank you. No victory

But they looked like victory beep people.

Was that a bad sign? I didn't hang around once I got into the shop. Selecting the cuisine of choice, I realised I had the place to myself apart from one woman shopper who was asking the manager's wife about beer.

I paid for the cat food. Cash - no hanging about for the credit card to clear. The manager was a friendly soul. but I could not risk conversation now. "Thanks. Good

night," I said, making space for the woman to put her pur-

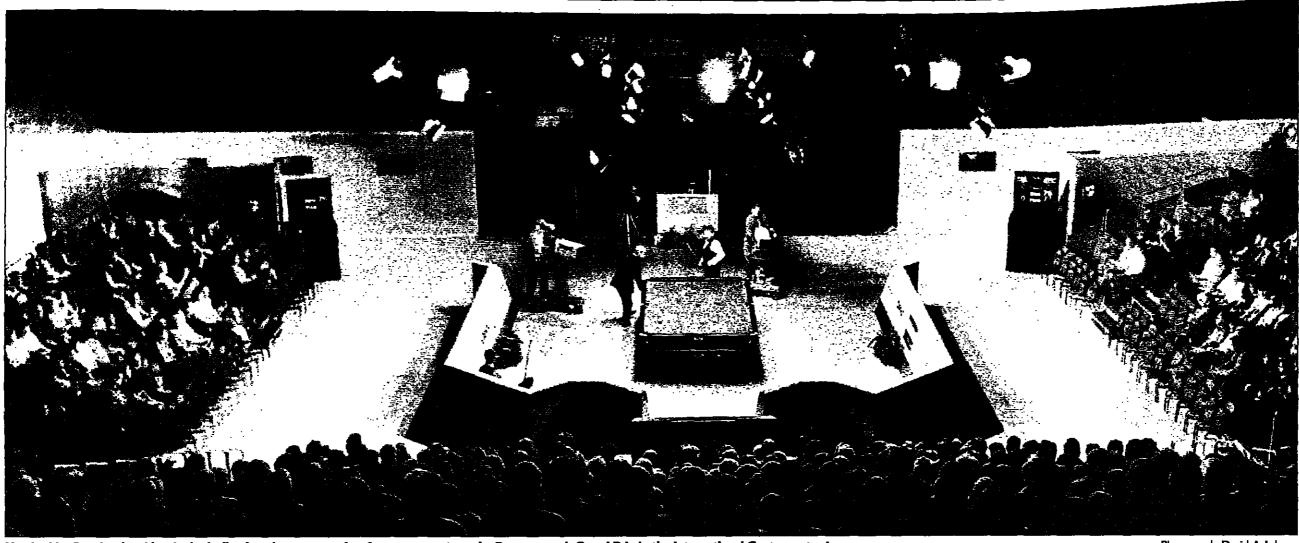
chases on the counter. "Six for five isn't it, those Budweisers?" the manager shouted to his wife. "Aren't they

"Yeah," came the reply from the back of the store. I opened the door, scenting

the wet autumn air and the rich, forthcoming possibilities of ITV. Clean away. Scot free. Like that film - what was it? one of the Hitchcock films, was

"I don't suppose you know what happened in the football?" the woman asked.

"Yeah," said the manager. "It was 0-0, wasn't it?" "Yeah," came the reply from the back of the store. The shop door swung to



Head table: Snooker is said to be in decline but there were only a few empty seats at the Bournemouth Grand Prix in the International Centre yesterday

Photograph: David Ashdown

Snooker back in the pink after suffering from success

In the Eighties snooker drew audiences that defied gravity. They are nearer to earth now, but is that a symptom of a terminal illness, or a sport finding a more realistic level? Guy Hodgson attempts to find out.

To paraphrase Charles Dickens, it was the best and worst of times. The day snooker kept up 18.5 million people beyond midnight to watch Dennis marked an apogee. Great, except that the sport still suffers

"Maybe it was the worst thing that happened to the game," Terry Griffiths, the 1979

created a level that no sport pronounce the body dead precould maintain. Now we get

words have been in close proximity in print so often you half expected to turn up to the pare the normal highs of 12m Centre this week to find the sport wrapped in bandages. It is yesterday's game, you hear. Like bear baiting or real tennis, it was popular once but it has

Where are the personalities? Where are the sponsors? Why Taylor defeat Steve Davis are there empty seats in the auditoriums? Surely a sport must be on its last legs if Jeffrey Archer has had to be taken on

Well, no actually. Nobody

maturely, but the strength of 10m and people say it's a their arguments are persuadecline. It's not. That's a sive. Snooker is not as popular as it was in the mid-Eighties, Snooker and decline. The they agree, but nothing could expect to be. The Davis-Taylor final created a false peak, com-

> "We have suffered for our own success," Rex Williams, the chairman of the game's governing body, the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association, said, "Most sports could get the sort of television figures we get. They are tremendous ratings. Someone decided snooker was on the decline

you get a truer picture

and it stuck. It's not true." Williams was around when would expect people whose snooker was down to four 10 million tuning in something world champion, said. "It living depends on it to professionals and in serious

jeopardy. Even as recently as and the FA Cup final but by were queueing up, but once the will come with age. "Steve Davis has done nothing but play 1975, the world championships had to go to Australia in pursuit of a sponsor.

"It's not at the same height as it was 10 years ago," Ray Edmonds, the BBC commentator, said, "but if you compare it to where it was 20 years ago we Bournemouth International on the finals around 1985 and are talking dizzy heights. All sports have suffered a drop in viewing figures but snooker has held up well."

Transmissions from the Grand Prix at Bournemouth were attracting more than two million viewers last week in the would be overjoyed if they ratings graveyard of midafternoon, which may not sound much but it comfortably betters Test cricket. The final of the Benson and Hedges Masters between Steve Davis and Ronnie O'Sullivan earlier this year had outdone by the Grand National

little else.

"I would say, comparatively, that figure is more impressive than the 18.5m of 1985," Bruce Beckett, the media relations manager for the WPBSA, said "Then there were only four channels, there was no satellite TV and little or no cable. Now there are so many competing attractions, there's a lot of people looking for a slice of the same pie."

What about sponsors? The tournament at Bournemouth had no backing while the British Open in Plymouth next April will also go ahead without a corporate name in front of its title unless someone can be found in the interim.

Insiders put that down to the squabbling and lack of organisation in the WPBSA. The sport was fine while backers

corporate climate changed and at 21 didn't have much personsponsors had to be chased the governing body was not up to it. Golf, which has a much stronger structure, and has a comparable number of events, has also had problems.

"The first thing I did was get rid of the marketing department," Williams, who was elected chairman in April after a 10-year gap, said, "because I wasn't sure what they did. We need a strong base to attract people into the game. I think the foundations are being built."

As for a perceived lack of personalities, success has had its drawbacks. The teens who have swamped the game were the first generation to see wall-towall snooker on TV and the first to have ready access to snooker

Edmonds says the characters

ality," he said. "Jimmy White already than I did throughout would only say yes, no, three my career. To me it's a healthy bags full at that age. It's unfair to criticise the youngsters now. role models are, the more kids How many young kids at 18 or 19 have a vivid personality?"

Griffiths concurs, In 1979 I was the young lad who had come from nowhere." he said. "Young lad? I was 30, Now players reach their peak at 22. Steve Davis and Dennis Taylor can't go on forever, there has year in year out. to be new faces. Every sport has youngsters coming through but only snooker is condemned

for it. "Take Matthew Stevens ~ who is in today's semi-final - I've known him since he was eight when his mother asked me to come down to meet him. That seem premature. boy was in at the start of the boom on TV and since that day

sign, because the vounger the will be attracted into the sport."

The future, according to Griffiths, is bright, "Last week they were talking about how interest in athletics has declined. At it's peak, they said. it was getting 10m viewers. it's peak! We're attracting that

"The BBC. Sky, you know what they're like. They wouldn't plough money into the game unless they knew they would get the viewers. Snooker's very, very healthy."

To paraphrase another author, reports of its death

Bournemouth report and results, page 21

Irwin pumps millions into his pension plan as golf's fabulous fifties cash in

In most sports, turning 50 means the end of the road as a well rewarded competitor, but golf's senior citizens simply switch course to even greater riches.

Tim Glover reports on the golden twilight zone of the the silver-haired brigade.

Old golfers never get a bad lie, nor do they lose their balls. They simply carry on swinging, heading not for the sunset but the untold riches at the end of the rainbow.

Last week Hale (and hearty) Irwin won the Kannapali Classic in Hawaii. It ninth victory of the yea US Seniors tour, equarecord set by Peter 1. ... in 1985. The comparisons cald there. Thomson would have

been lucky to earn \$200,000. \$1.27.500 (£80,000), taking his total to \$2,131,364 (£1.3m), the

carned on any tour in one year. "Would it be greedy to ask for one more?" Irwin said.

get the pipe and slippers there has never been a better pension plan.

The bespectacled Irwin became eligible for senior service when he turned 50 two years ago. It was like presenting him with a gold key to Fort Knox. Prior to this season he had already won nearly \$2m on the golden oldies' circuit and prior to that had won nearly \$6m on the regular tour.

Irwin, of course, is a class act. He won the US Open Champi-Irwin's prize in Hawaii was onship on three occasions, in 1974, 1979 and 1990. He also won the World Match Play so nervous he could hardly most money any player has ever Championship, when it meant something, in 1974 and 1975, and had a tremendous record in the Ryder Cup. In five appearscored by Bob Duval. Over in five times although he was

the last putt on the last green in the last match, involving irwin and Bernhard Langer. Despite a badly hooked drive at the last into the crowd, Irwin's ball somehow found its way back on to the fairway. He took five, but Langer missed that infamous five footer that would have won him a point, tied the scores and retained the cup for Europe. Irwin, whose half point secured a US victory by 14 and a half - 13 and a half, was then 46 and he said he was

draw breath. No such problems with the Seniors tour. Many of the events are played not over The best round, a 66, was ances he was on the winning side four rounds but three; often there is no half-way cut and the

like I, win it must seem like a walk on the mild side. Compared with the mature

US Seniors tour, which had the unique pulling power of the likes of Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and Lee Trevino, the European equivalent is in its infancy, but is growing steadily. While Irwin was winning number nine, Tommy Horton was winning his south of the season.

This 56-year-old Royal Jersey professional shot 68 in the final round for a three-stroke victory over Jose Maria Canizares in the Senior Tournament of Champions at the Buckinghamshire club near Denham.

It carned him £20,000 for a

This was the ballistic war on tour. The players have time, not sum that many on the regular nowhere. Even players like all this is going to end," Horwake up.

When John Morgan, a West won six events in Europe in 1994 and 12 months ago gained his card for the US, finishing fifth in the seniors' tour school in Florida.

A school for the over fifties? It was not the bed of azaleas Morgan imagined it would be. "I was strong and I thought I had a good chance of winning tournaments," he said. "But I found that if I put in an average performance it got me no higher than the top 50. To make the top 10 I had to play

the shore which went down to only to smell the flowers but to tour would give their milk Bruce Crampton and Don Jancultivate them. For somebody teeth for. "I don't know where uary who are over 60, are practising hard and working out. ton said. "But I hope I don't They are still very, very good players,"

Morgan, who has won Kirby based pro, turned 50, he \$300,000 in the US this season, has the support of his wife Christine, who gave up her teaching job to work as his caddie. "She doesn't have to lug my bag around. The caddies can ride in carts while the players walk. Hospitality is first class and all the players get Cadillacs with named car spaces.

"But I have to say I prefer Europe where life is a bit more interesting. In the States I sometimes forget which city I'm in. While the manicured courses are lovely to play on, they are too perfect. Golf is not



Hale Irwin: golden years

game and we have to accept the rough with the smooth. We play a more natural game in Europe."

Doubtless Irwin would disagree. It would be interesting It carned him £20,000 for a exceptionary were total of £158,427, not quite in of ability is tremendous. If you total of £158,427, not quite in of ability is tremendous. If you tables. It's a cross-country runner, in a to match Irwin, the green haize Florida, his son David was damned lucky in the cliffhang- courses are considerably short- winning on the US tour. For- er at Kiawah Island six years ago, er than those on the regular livin's super tax league, but a are worse than level par you're tables. It's a cross-country runner, in a showdown to decide seniority.

الكذا من الاصل

Perry destined to follow in famous footsteps

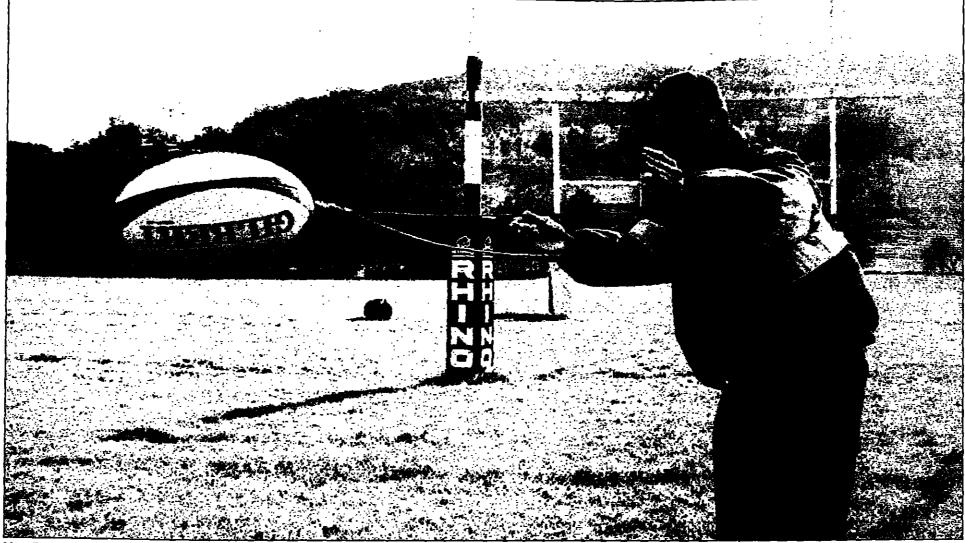
Matt Perry's first-class appearances still number less than 30, yet his progress towards a first England cap appears inexorable.

Chris Hewett pins down Bath's elusive midfield prodigy on the subjects that really matter dressing-room diatribes, training field torments and the fine art of making tea.

The names trip automatically off the tongues of Bath supporters like lines from the Lord's Prayer: Beese, Palmer, Horton, Barnes, Halliday, Guscott, de Glanville, Catt. Only the rarest talents are ordained into the Recreation Ground's midfield priesthood, perhaps the most exclusive sect in the broad church of English rugby, and it would be an act of gross heresy to bestow such reverence on a mere 20-year-old fresh out of the professional game's equivalent of Sunday school.

Yet, sacrilegious though it may be to say so, Matthew Brendan Perry is close to securing his place among the Chosen Ones, despite the fact that his top-flight career has been in progress for rather less than half a season. So effortlessly has he coped with the white-hot demands of life in Bath's creative forge that the West Countrymen have felt able to treat Jeremy Guscott's long-term absence as one of life's occasional set-backs rather than a full-blown disaster.

Not that Perry is remotely dismissive of Guscott's sublime talents. "The game is just so easy for Jerry," he says with a slight shake of the head and a mixture of bemusement and bright green envy on his face, "I honestly hope we haven't seen the last of him because you don't come across his sort of quality too often in a lifetime. He possesses pace the rest of us would die for not just the pace to make the important break, but an amazing extra gear that takes him away from the cover. I loved playing at full-back much." Cagey as well as self- by and he captained a school when he was up there in midfield, making things happen in front of me and letting me pick he sees his long-term future. my moment to join in the fun. That was dream time."



Perry might have mentioned that as well as playing behind Guscott, he had also played alongside him in the centre, inside him at stand-off and outside him on either wing. He may not be able to boast the great man's super-sleek speed across satility front.

a preference for any one of his er much possibility of his son many positions? "Not really. I breaking with family tradition played outside-half all the way and lacing up his boots elsethrough school, more or less, where. and enjoyed it, but then, I've enjoyed my runs at full-back just as thoroughly." Don't tell us. no less, and an outstanding You enjoy playing in the centre, rugby academy. His cricket was too. "Yes, of course. Very deprecating, then. Not even team featuring a certain Ben the hint of a clue as to where Hollioake - "Ben was such an

up - and started out on the rugby road as an eight-year-old with the Recreation Ground minis. His father, Brendan, was himself an exceptional all-round sportsman who played outsidehalf for the club in the late 1960s, volunteered eagerly for the eterthe ground - who can? - but he nal grind of the old amateur leaves him for dead on the ver- committee room and finally entered high office as president. Will the youngster admit to Needless to say, there was nev-

> He was educated at Milifield. alma mater of Gareth Edwards, very nearly as good as his rug-

bition. After A levels he decided to send his learning curve in a near-perpendicular direction by putting his still under-developed physique on the line in the South African club arena.

Somehow, I had to finance my trip to Durban and the only job I could find was as a waiter in a typical Bath tea shop. There I was, an England Schools back dropping bone china by the hundredweight. Still, I learned how to make a fine pot of tea. My house-mates. Charlie Harrison and Andy Long, are eternally grateful for the time I spent prancing around in an аргор."

There is an element of the shrinking violet about Perry, although he emphasises that his

et indeed when I entered the dressing-room for my first senior game. I remember just sitting there, staring at the floor and not daring to look up, let alone say anything. I don't think anyone has ever taken so long to pull on a pair of socks as I did that day.

"The Bath dressing-room has always had a reputation for being an edgy sort of place, a very cutting environment full of strong characters and strong play the rugby of your imagiopinions. I don't think it can be quite as aggressive as it must have been when the Barneses and Chilcotts were in there winding everyone up, but pointer against Gloucester. We there's still a lot of tension, a real atmosphere.

"It's a tough old business in sotto voci politeness takes a training too. Andy Robinson is and effort worthwhile." distant back seat in the all-con- a heast of a coach. There's no

there mixing it with the oppo- as well as at the Rec. Drafted sition. In fact, he reminds us before every match that we're the 15 lucky ones, that there are hundreds of people out there who would give anything to do what we're doing. "I'm incredibly proud to be

playing for Bath and I love the way all the players support each other totally in a match situation. It gives you the confidence to try different things, to nation. We had two games towards the end of last season that illustrate the point, a 40-pointer against Leicester and a 70just seemed to click and the feeling was out of this world. Days like that make the all the sweat

There is scarcely an objective exceptional player that it was suming passion of a big match. other word for him, I'm afraid. rugby analyst around who does Like Guscott, Perry was born quite a giggle telling him what "I'm not one for shying away But we all know that his inten- not believe he will soon be enin Bath - he is, at present, the to do," - but the winter game from a challenge," he says, "but sity comes from the fact that in joying worthwhile days on the early days. As my father says, a An engagingly modest sort, only home-town boy in the line- had the deeper hold on his am- I must admit to being very qui- his ideal world, he'd still be out ultimate stage at Twickenham career is a long time."

Team news

Allied Dunbar Premiership

Harlequins v Sale Harlequins French Internationals, Thierry Lacrobs and Leurent Ca-bannes, are again ruled out by Letin Cup commitments, el-though taily's Massimo Cuttita is back in club training from the

same injuries are again hinder-ing Sale coach John Mitchells se-lection plans, but scrum-half Kavin Ellis is now it again to chal-lenge Richard Smith and wing David Rises has resumed train-ted following a hemia coveration.

The Llons captain, Martin John-son, leads an unchanged Leicester side from the one beaten 25-6 by Northampton last Saturday, but pressure is mount-ing on Bob Dwyer's Tigers fol-lowing an email: two months. England hooker Mark Regan re-turns to the Bath Inc-up after being dropped a forthight ego. Veterans Jon Callard and Nigel Redman, who missed last Sat-urday's win over Bristol, also start

Bristol v Northampton Bristol v Northampton
Bristol centre Sman Marin is out
with a leg injury, so coach Alan
Davies has moved Tongan wing
Davie Tauetl into midfield and
called up Staffan Jones. Hooker Kevin Dunn returns to the fray
after missing the Bath defeat because of a mouth infection.
Northampton have named a
21-man squad, with coach lan
McGeechan ikely to field the
side who comfortably accounted for Laicester last Saturday.

London írish v Wasps London Irish's Lion, Jeremy Davidson, misses out after in-juring his knee against Glouces-ter last Sunday and now ter last Sunday and now requires keyhole surgery. Fellow Irish international Gabriel Ruicher deputises. Guy Gregory and Martyn Wood are Waspe' new half-back combination as England pair Andy Gornarsal (back) and Alex King (knee) begin their recoveries from surgery.

Newcastle v Michimona Newcastle again start without Li-ons Tim Stimpson and John Bentley, who missed tast weeks win at Sale. England full-back Stimpson has a thigh injury, but Sentley is emong the replace-ments, Flanker Flichard Amold re-turns after recovering from harnstring trouble. Argentinian pair Agustin Pichot and Rolando Martin miss Richmonds trip north because of Latin Cup commitbecause of Latin Cuo commit because or Lam Cup commin-ments, Andy Moore continuing as sorum-half with Robbie Hutton moving into the back row. Late decisions are planned between full-backs Matt Pini and Simon Mason, and stand-offs Adrian Davies and Earl Va'a.

Saracens v Gloucester Saracens v Gloucester
Unbeaten Saracens make one
chenge, replacing Irish lock
Paddy Johns with Welsh internetional Tony Copsey, Injured England fighter Richard His
again misses out. Gloucester's
England squad hooker, Phil
Greening, is recalled at Nell
McCarthy's expense, while
French import Rephael Saint-Andre has been omitted in favour of former Bath wing Mike Lloyd. Saint-Andres brother, French captain Philippe, is on Latin

Stop-start phoney war halts momentum for Allied campaign

Just when it seemed the Allied Dunbar Premiership had returned to centre stage, England's bemused and befuddled top-flight clubs are preparing to This weekend's action will usher in a second early-season hiatus for what is meant to be the jewel in the crown of domestic rugby. With an entire litter of fat cat investors expressing alarm at the costly and continual disruption to their fledgling businesses, this

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113

blow it another farewell kiss. the inaugural Allied Dunbar also stripped the tournament of title. In reality, it will tell shed its necessary momentum. With precious little light on the stop-start premiership is ship is in danger of becoming a marooned in Never Never Land. phantom competition.

November may be just

with Bath before a 16.000 terruptions have not only denied Welford Road full-house this af-struggling clubs the opportunity termoon should have been a to offer supporters meaningful seminal contest in the chase for rugby on a weekly basis, but have European Cup and England inlegitimacy of either side's cham-ternational commitments taking pionship ambitions because the precedence again the Premier-

The structured season? around the corner but thanks to What a laugh. There are struclatest interlude is likely to strain the craziest fixture list in sport, tures in the Tate Gallery that their patience to breaking point. the Allied Dunbar is still in a make more sense than English

Leicester's confrontation state of phoney war. Constant in rugby's chub schedule. Leicester lenge was badly undermined by play their third premiership a backlog of matches and regame of the season today and if they beat Glasgow in next weekend's Heineken Cup quarter-final play-off, they will not play their fourth until a fortnight before Christmas. That means they must sardine no fewer than 18 games into the second half of the campaign.

> As Bob Dwyer, the Leicester coach, found to his cost last season, a spring fixture pile-up is no laughing matter. The Tigers' desire to maintain a title chal-

sulted in senior players carrying credentials, this afternoon's eninjuries into increasingly intense and physical games.

Wasps, the reigning champions who benefited from Leicester's discomfort, are other foot this time. They too have played only a brace of premiership games and improved performances at Heineken level means they are likely to feel their own fixture squeeze come March and April.

Far from offering incontrovertible proof of championship counter in Tiger territory will, ironically, shed far more light Clive Woodward's first England line-up. Unless Graham Rowntree, the out-of-sorts Leicester likely to find the boot on the loose-head prop. makes a serious mess of Victor Ubogu in the set-pieces, the latter could return to international duty at the expense of the former. What is more, four of the prime candi-

dates to form England's mid-

field axis will be on view: Will

lamp-post could never have took what he took'

Greenwood and Phil de tremely effectively to neutralise Glanville, who need big games, along with Mike Catt and the exciting youngster, Matt Perry.

into the wider England squad

by Clive Woodward, with whom

he worked at Bath until the

coach's graduation to national

colours last month, Perry may

well be granted at least one ed-

ucational meeting with Frank

Bunce, Walter Little and the rest

of the All Black back division

scheduled to arrive in these is-

lands a fortnight on Monday.

says of the New Zealanders. "I'd

love a shot at them in one of the

tour games, as would any young

player with a bit of ambition. It's

against teams of their quality

that you learn about yourself.

hurry. Bath is everything to me

at the moment, the most im-

portant thing in the world. I know

some nice things have been said

put on a pedestal. These are still

"Having said that, I'm in no

"Awesome, aren't they?" he

Tomorrow's programme throws up humdingers at Saracens - always assuming you can have a humdinger with 4,000 supporters scattered around a 22,000-seater stadium - and Newcastle, The Londoners, still deprived of the services of the injured Lion Richard Hill in the and will have to scrummage ex-

the West Country side's bullish new tight-head, Phil Vickery.

The early pacesetters from Newcastle will fancy their chances against Richmond, their arch-rivals from last season's Second Division campaign. The visitors have yet to demonstrate any sort of mettle away from home and with their Pumas. Agustin Pichot and Rolando Martin, on Latin Cup duty with back row, take on Pete Argentina, they may well be Glanville's buoyant Gloucester travelling too light for comfort. Chris Hewett

SPORT ON THE INTERNET

How to tune in to American college football

Millions of Americans will flock to stadiums all across the nation this afternoon as the college football season enters its second half. The college game is the breeding ground for the National Football League and for those who want to follow tomorrow's superstars today, the next best thing to having a seat on the addition to providing com-40-yard line is having an Internet connection.

The Sports Network offers daily college football news reports as well as schedules, standings and a live scoreboard updated continuously while games are in progress. It also features a chat room where rival supporters can engage in virtual slanging matches.

Every week sportswriters and editors vote for the best teams in the nation and the results of the Associated Press Top 25 are posted on the Web. The Nebraska Cornhuskers, undefeated in six games this season, are top of the AP poll as they head south to take on Big 12 Conference rivals Kansas this evening.

champion. But CNN and Sports Illustrated magazine to have their say on their college football Web pages. In prehensive news, scores. game summaries and mountains of statistics, the site offers fans the chance to vote for the CNN/SI Top 25. Anyone with at least a

ADDRESSES The Sports Network http://www.sportsnetwork.com AP Top 25 http://aptop25.com CNN/SI College Football http://www.cnnsi.com/foot-

14,400 modem and the right

ball/college RealAudio http://www.realaudio.com Audionet http://www.audionet.com/live ND Football

http://www.ndfootball.com

Sportswriters being a no- software can actually tune in toriously fickle lot, the AP to live radio broadcasts of poll is, to say the least, a high-dozens of games. In order to ly suspect method of do so you will need to downdetermining the national load RealPlayer software, available free from the Real Audio site. Then go to Auhave given the fans a chance dionet, where you can find links to live radio broadcasts of more than 50 different games each weekend. Best of the lot today is likely to be the clash between the University of Michigan Wolverines and their interstate rivals, the Michigan State Spartans, kickoff at 6.30pm UK time.

One of the most popular college football teams in America is Notre Dame. The ND Football site is a good place to keep up with the latest developments in the quarterback controversy currently raging in South Bend, Indiana. With a dismal record of two wins and five loses so far this season, it appears that not even the Pope's prayers will be enough to secure Notre Dame a benth in a bowl game next New Year's Day. - Roger Ridev

Up here in the Highlands, lamp-post could never have

where I have been for the past took what he took." The Glaswegian lost that fortnight there are few profight, but had his revenge in grammes you are less likely to 1966 beating Burruni in Lonsee elsewhere, including on Grampian last weekend, that don for the world title. "Wee would go down well in any of the Salvatore came over at the end ITV regions despite the English of the fight. 'Oh you are too fast subtitles (which some people for me, my friend, too fast.' And seem to dislike). Duim cheilteach I said Thank Christ for that." ("Celtic fists") traces the histo-McGowan was injured runry of boxing in Scotland, Wales ning backwards up a hill during roadwork. "I felt this prang and Ireland, and a fine series it is too, with a real poetry to the

Gaelic commentary. And most of the interviews are in English so Sassenachs like me don't feel too adrift. The programme I saw was largely devoted to two boxers whose names will always live in my head in the voice of Harry Carpenter: Walter McGowan and Howard Winstone. Mc-Gowan was trained by his father; who, in his own boxing days, ta-ta, while I could still write my with a big family to support, once fought 29 times in three weeks. McGowan emerges as a crisp storyteller, describing his first encounter with the Italian

Salvatore Burruni, for the Eu-

ropean flyweight title, he said,

"He was like a tank, he absorbed

in my heel - my Achilles tendon puffed up. Doctor, hospital, operation. Bang. Later on, half-way through a fight, it bust again. A painful thing, too, so it is. I'd get all my teeth pulled out anytime, before I'd get a job like that done again. And as life went on, I began to get a bit slower, and there were guys beginning to catch me with straight lefts. So I just said

name and address. Good-bye.' Winstone was born in Merthyr Tydfil, and The Independent's Ken Jones is enlisted to explain the unique character of the place - an "ethnic confusion" of English, rural Welsh, Geordies, Irish and Italians everything I threw at him. A who came to the pits and the bought both wealth and sadness



CHRIS MAUME SPORT ON TV

steelworks. "It's a strange place, Jones said. "Even Welsh people find Merthyr strange." It was a proud boxing town he recounts. "There was a legend that boys were born with their fists clenched."

Three times Winstone tried to wrest the world featherweight crown from the Mexican Vincente Saldivar, the third time in the Aztec stadium. "The heat and beauty of Mexico amazed Winstone who had been born and raised in the industrial heartland of Wales, where coal its toll on Winstone: "The first couple of rounds I was doing all right. By the eighth I could not move my legs." In the 12th he was put

down for a count of nine. "I got up and he started throwing towel, "I kicked the towel out, fight. Saldivar retired that took the title, beating Mitsunori Seki at the Albert Hall, inciting riotous celebrations from the largely Welsh crowd. He was the first Welsh world champion for 45 years.

I was intending only to write about programmes shown only north of the border this week, and had Celtic and Rangers not maintained the proud Scots round the bend" said Roy tradition - interrupted only a few times over the years - of being rubbish in Europe, I could have watched an Old Firm Uefa Cup tie. Instead, though, there was the unmittigated pleasure for a Manchester United fan of seeing Liverpool being pire from within. Give the thrashed by Strasbourg, Now I

to people's lives," said the Gael- usually want other English chubs ic voiceover. The altitude took to do well in Europe, if only because it makes things more interesting. But not Liverpool.

As a son of a Mancunian Catholic with a footballing raconteur for a grandmother ("Go on, Nan, tell me about the Munich disaster again") who beeverything at me." His trainer lieved that Matt Busby was the Eddie Thomas, threw in the Pope's right-hand man, I was only ever going to support one but the referee had stopped the team. I could also plead special circumstances in that I went to night and in 1968 Winstone school in Liverpool, and being one United fan amongst thousands of Scousers has given my dislike of the Anfield mob a particularly vituperative intensity.

So by the time the third goal went in on Tuesday, I was virtually incoherent with giee. Call me small minded. I don't care, "You can't defend like that in Europe, it's driving me Evans, who looks like a broken man (even I felt for him a little bit). God Bless Graeme Souness, that's what I say. Personally, I think he was on the take from Old Trafford bribed to destroy an entire em-

Win or lose, Schumacher remains a champion apart

Michael Schumacher must finish ahead of Jacques Villeneuve temorrow to clinch his third Formula One world championship.

Even if he fails, though, there is no doubting who is best.

The raw speed, of course, is a key part of the equation. "It's easy to see," says the former Formula One driver turned ITV commentator, Martin Brundle, who was Michael Schumacher's team-mate at Benetton in 1992. "First of all Michael is fast. Very, very fast."

So fast that when he first drove an F1 car, the Jordan operations director, Trevor Foster, remembers trying to slow him down, "until we realised that this was his natural pace and that he was completely unfazed by it all. Then we let him have his head. That day we knew he was something very special."

All of the past greats - such as Fangio, Moss, Clark, Stewart, Lauda, Prost and Senna - demonstrated similar inherent pace. But, in common with such luminaries, the secrets of Schumacher's devastating dominance of F1 go much deeper.

"Like Senna and Prost and Lauda he's

very, very intelligent," Brundle continues. "He's got a bit of grey matter. Thirdly, he is supremely fit and agile. Fourthly, pressure is just water off a chick's back for him. The closest I think I've ever seen him to losing control, inside a car, is the recent Luxembourg GP at Nürburgring, going down to the first corner, when his brother overtook him and crashed across the race track. He went round the outside and got taken out. In the car it's not like him to do all that Jean Alesi stuff across the race track. It really struck me. He's usually in total control.

The fifth point comes down to his intelligence. He's able to see the big picture and to get the team all working for him. Every mechanic, engineer, fabricator or whatever in the team can love you to pieces as a person, but whilst it's pleasant it's completely meaningless. But getting them all respecting you and rowing in the same direction for you, that's what he is really good at." Brundle likens Schumacher's speed to

Ayrton Senna's, but believes that their make-up differs significantly. "I don't think he's naturally gifted, like Senna. Senna was gifted, absolutely on a different plane. There was something more to him than just being a great racing driver. He was on a genius level. Michael is a great racing driver, but I think he's mentally much more together than Senna, particularly emotionally. I think he applies the skills he's got in a more controlled way than Senna did. But I'm not sure he's got the absolute born gift that Ayrton had. And I

that. But, as a package, he may well turn out to be better. I think in some ways he's more rounded and complete."

Schumacher's speed, car control and basic racing intelligence have won him countless races, investing him with the ability to adapt to revised strategies even while racing, and to minimise the time decelerating during pit stops, and accelerating back to speed. When rivals make their stops he is the master at the fast lap which closes the gap and allows him to beat them back on to the track after his own stop. "It's the brain department again," Brundle says.

Then there is the selfish streak that all modern-day winners need, and Damon Hill well remembers the altercation in Adelaide that cost him the chance of the world championship that year, as Schumacher deliberately closed the door until they collided. "Some of the things that Michael pulled in 1995, particularly at Spa, were difficult to take, which was why at the time I sought a clarification from the FIA [the sport's governing body] on what tactics were deemed acceptable and what weren't," Hill said.

PROFILE BY DAVID TREMAYNE

Johnny Herbert, too, suffered as Schumacher's team-mate in 1995. "I was four thousandths of a second slower than him in first practice in Argentina, and from then on he suddenly started suggesting that perhaps we shouldn't share our car set-up information, and that since we both had things we might want to keep to ourselves. we should stop collaborating." From that moment Herbert no longer became privy to differences in their cars, and found Schumacher demanding more and more of his allocated testing time, when drivers really get to understand and develop, their machinery. There was nothing malicious in it; Schumacher was simply protecting his territory and using his clout to maintain a dominant position.

Brundle provides a counterpoint, however. "In 1992 Michael was a bit naughty and used to block me a lot when we were racing together. But two years ago, funnily enough, he apologised for that. We were having dinner one night and he said: I can't believe I was so stupid to block you. More often than not I was quicker than him in a race though he'd out-qualify me, so I had to pass him. And he ran me off the road in Hungary. I hit the back of him, and then his rear wing fell off. I have to say I laughed for two laps. People say he's arrogant but not many vers will say that to you. It showed he'd

been thinking about it. He's funny like that." He remembers the "green" young man that Schumacher was in their days as teammates, when he thought England was grey and dull. Later he said to me: I was wrong, England is beautiful, isn't it?" "

The 1997 Schumacher is a more worldly, rounded figure. He admits that the birth of his first child, Gina-Maria, has changed his outlook on life, and says: "Becoming a father has had an effect on me. Before, FI was the whole focus of my attention, but now it is family first and then motor racing.

Becoming a father has not suddenly made me more aware of the dangers of motor racing nor made me wonder how long I should continue. Two years ago, I said I would retire in five years but now I'm not so sure. It will depend when the day comes that I don't want to test and race any more. When you don't like to do something, that is the time to stop."

He is one of the highest paid sportsmen in history, but says that money is of secondary importance. To any successful athlete, it is usually only a measure of their value. "It gives me satisfaction knowing I do not have to worry financially about the future," he agrees. "But to me, motor racing has always been more than just a financial thing. People get the wrong impression. Sometimes the media build up people like myself as not human. But, of course, I am. When I am racing, I am focused on what I am doing. Maybe I am a bit more precise and professional than others. But that is my way. What I try to do is commit myself totally as a racing driver and then to switch off completely.

The problem for his rivals is that when that focus is on racing, nobody does it better, and the balance that has come into his life has only made him stronger. Nigel Stepney, the chief mechanic at Ferrari, worked with and greatly admired Senna. "Michael is cool," he stressed. "He is very calm in situations where calm is needed. Rather than getting all excited and disturbed he thinks a lot more and takes it easy in those situations. And in a race, the driving comes naturally. The rest of the time he's like the Sennas and the Prosts, he's got more time to think about strategy."

Stepney cannot remember a time since Schumacher began at Ferrari that he has lost his cool publicly. "He doesn't get overexcited at all. If he does, it's behind closed doors, just with the top management. He never loses it in front of the engineers or mechanics. In Japan he was very calm. He didn't use all the laps he was allowed. He knew the car was good and he was under control and didn't have to do any more than necessary. It's been a long time since we've seen him like that, and when he is like that he is at his most dangerous."

In Spain this weekend he looks just the

ar Dickson Jan

There is a ruthless streak in Michael Schumacher that many of his rivals - and even some of his team-mates - have encountered and which once led Damon Hill to seek clarification from the sport's governing body to discover just what were acceptable racing tactics and what were not. But, above all, he is a masterful driver and a supreme tactician, as his leading rival, Jacques Villeneuve (right), has discovered to his cost this season

Photographs: Robert Hallam (main picture) and Empics



WORDS: CATHERINE RILEY Graphic: Kristina Ferris

D LUXEMBOURG - 28 Sept Schumacher: Q5 Ret lap 2 - Opts: 68 Villeneuve: Q2 P1 - 10pts: 77 Raif Schumacher's dive into the first

corner resulted in him driving over his older brother's Ferrari. Schumacher senior limped on, but his suspension was too badly broken to continue. The Canadian coasted home to move into a nine-point lead.

The road to Jerez: how Schumacher and Villeneuve have chased the world championship

\varTheta AUSTRALLA - 10 March Schumacher: Q3 P2 - 6pts Villeneuve: Q1 Ret lap 0 - 0pts off to a poor start when, at the first corner, Eddle Irvine hit the Canadian's Williams-Renault, forcing him into the gravel and out of the race. Schumache gravel and out of the race. Schumacher, meanwhile, took six points with his second place behind David Coulthard.

 ARGENTINA - 13 April Schumacher: Q4 Ret lap 0 - Opts: 8 Villeneuve: Q1 P1 - 10pts: 20 Barrichello again turned provider for Villeneuve. Turning into the first corner, Schumacher piloted his Stewart-Ford. Villeneuve shook off a stomach upset and the attentions of

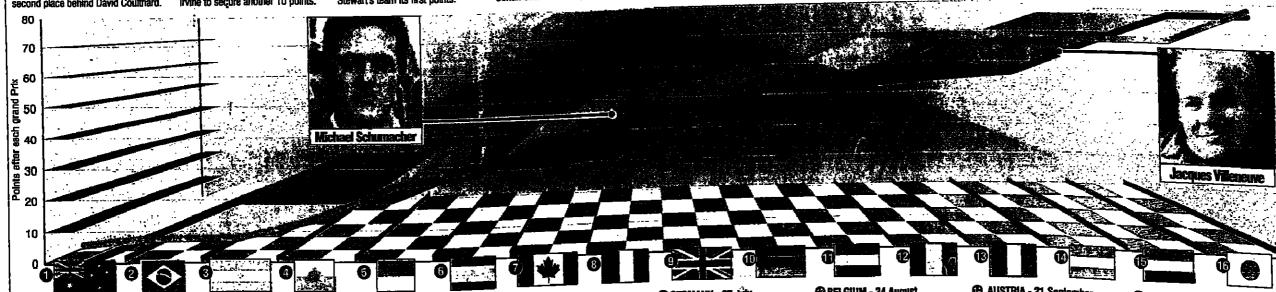
● MONACO - 11 May Schumacher: 02 P1 - 10pts: 24 Villeneuve: 03 Ret lap 16 - 0pts: 20 Schumacher confirmed his status as the world's best driver in the wet. lapping the hapless Villeneuve who started on slicks and ended up in a barrier, and finishing 53sec ahead of Barrichello, who gave Jackie -Stewart's team its first points.

OCANADA - 15 June Schumacher: 01 P1 - 10pts: 37 Villeneuve: 02 Ret tap 2 - 0pts: 30 After a week in which he was reprimanded for comments deemed detrimental to the sport, in front of his home crowd Villeneuve made an elementary error and spun his Warns into the barriers, leaving Schumacher to sweep to victory.

© GREAT BRITAIN - 13 July Schumacher: Q4 Ret 38 - Opts: 47 Villeneuve: Q1 P1 - 10pts: 43 Fortune smiled on Villeneuve at Silverstone. A 33-second pit stop looked to have ended the Canadian's hopes until Schumacher retired with a wheel-bearing problem. When Mika Hakkingn's McLaren exolred stx laps out, Villeneuve cruised home,

 Hungary - 10 August
Schumacher: 01 P4 - 3pts: 56
Villeneuve: 02 P1 - 10pts: 53
Damon Hill looked set for victory until his Arrows gradually gave up the ghost. Villeneuve reeling in his 34-second advantage to push the Briton into second. Fourth place ensured Schumacher maintained ead, albeit a slim three-point one.

@ITALY - 7 Septe Schumacher: Q9 P6 - 1pt: 67 Villeneuve: Q4 P5 - 2pts: 57 The championship issue was reduced a sideshow at Monza. Villeneuve finished fifth, edging a point closer to the sixth-placed chumacher, whose Ferrari, much to the dismay of the 115,000 crowd,



@ BRAZIL - 30 March Schumacher: Q2 P5 - 2pts: Total 8 Villeneuve: Q1 P1 - 10pts: Total 10 It was second time lucky for Villeneuve. The Canadian got a poor start, but as Rubens Barrichello was left stranded on the grid, the race had to be restarted. Schumacher took an early lead, but was soon passed by Villeneuve's Williams-Renault, a lead he was never to refinquish.

O SAN MARIMO - 27 April Schumacher: 03 P2 - 6pts: 14 Villeneuve: 01 Ret lap 40 - 0pts: 20 A race notable for the maiden F1 success of Heinz-Harald Frentzen After Villeneuve's race ended with a gear selection problem, Schumache and his compatriot provided an Impressive battle to give Germany its first one-two finish in a grand prix, just 1.237sec apart.

SPAIN - 25 May Schumacher: Q7 P4 - 3pts: 27 Villeneuve: Q1 P1 - 10pts: 30 The Canadian returned to the top of the drivers' championship with victory in the most dull race of the season. Villeuve held the advantage of pole going into the first comer. where he was briefly hounded by Schumacher, but then pulled away the head the procession.

FRANCE - 29 June Villeneuve: Q4 P4 - 3pts: 33 Schumacher's third victory in four races put him 14 points clear of Villeneuve. The German's calculated risk of staying on slick tyres despite pain late in the race paid off as Villeneuve, again struggling with the set-up of his Williams, could only finish fourth.

© GERMANY - 27 July Schumacher: Q4-P2 - 6pts: 53 Villeneuve: Q9 Ret lap33 - 0pts: 43 The pendulum again swung the German's way at Hockenheim, Schumacher finishing a contented second behind Gerhard Berger, spite tyre and gear problems. Villeneuve was never in contention, spinning out after 33 laps when

BELGIUM - 24 August Schumacher: Q3 P1 - 10pts: 66 Villeneuve: Q1 P5 - 2pts: 55 Schumacher again proved he was not only the master of Spa, but also of the weather. Despite the torrentia rain, he opted for wet-dry settings and intermediate tyres. Just before the start, the sun came out and the Williams, on full wet settings, were

left floundering.

 AUSTRIA - 21 September Schumacher: Q9 P6 - 1pt: 68 Villeneuve: Q1 P1 - 10pts: 67 Schumacher ran foul of the penalty for overtaking under yellow flags, and re-emerged in ninth place, but managed to haut himself into sidth. Villeneuve, squandered his sole but worked his way in the pole but worked his way in the sidth. pole, but worked his way into a fortable victory from third place.

6 JAPAN - 12 October Schumacher: Q2 P1 - 10pts: 78 Villaneuve: Q1 P5 (disq) - Opts: 77
The penultimate race of the season and the most contentious. Villeneuve raced under appeal, but his two points were deducted after Williams decided to drop their appeal. decided to drop their appeal, leaving the victorious Schumacher leading the standings by one point.

TENNIS: EUROCARD OPEN

Kiefer now people's choice for new hero

As the leading players jostle for places in next month's ATP Tour Championship, a new generation is going through a blooding Focess. John Roberts, in Stuttgart, notes the progress of Nicolas Kiefer, hailed as the new Becker.

Following Boris Becker was always going to be a dubious distinction, and Nicolas Kiefer has been swiftly introduced to one of the snags that go with being Germany's No I - expectation. At the moment, the pressure is chiefly generated by Kiefer's own ambitions, but the demands of the crowds are bound to expand.

Having received a wild card for the Eurocard Open by popular acclaim - a poll of the readers of Bild am Sonntag lifefer's advance to yesterday's quarter-finals coincided with supplanting Becker in the world

Michael Stich is the only

in the 12 years since Becker first won Wimbledon at the age of 17. Stich, for all his success, was destined to trail in Becker's shadow, a role which suited the conservative northerner.

The 20-year-old Kiefer bears a passing resemblance to Andre Agassi and has a certain swagger, but is far from the finished personality his gift for the game is likely to mould as his ranking rises from No 34.

This week he eliminated Greg Rusedski in the second round and beat off two match points in defeating the Dutchman Paul Haarhuis, recovering from 2-5 in the third set, helped by the enthusiasm of the spectators and some questionable line calls.

Shortly before Kiefer returned to the court to play Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman for a place in the semi-finals yesterday. Kiefer's name cropped up during a press conference concerning next month's ATP Tour Championship in Hannover.

It was pointed out that Kiefer is from Sievershausen, near Hannover, and Anreas Lampersbach, the spokesman for Hannover's Expo 2,000, other German to achieve that suggested that it was not

impossible for Kiefer to qualify for the Tour finale, "if he manages to win the Stuttgart tournament and maybe the one in Paris and the one in Moscow.'

This particular example of the type of hyperbole Kiefer can expect foundered at the first hurdle. Bjorkman defeated Kiefer, 6-4, 6-2, bolstering his own prospects of qualifying for the elite eight in Hannover. Weary, perhaps, from his

earlier efforts, Kiefer faded badly towards the end of a match which was punctuated by nine service breaks. Bjorkman, so impressive in Thursday's third round victory against Tim Henman, was less erratic than his opponent, whose stream of unforced errors in the closing games incurred some whistles of derision.

As with Rusedski and Henman, Kiefer has a rival for national prestige, in his case the 19-year-old Tommy Haas, a finalist in Lyon last week and defeated by Henman in the first round here.

Petr Korda, who is capable of disrupting the dreams of leading players from Pete Sampas down, defeated Marcelo



Petr Korda returns the ball to Marcelo Rios during his Photograph: AP victory in the quarter-finals yesterday

Rios, 6-3, 6-4 to put a severe dent in the Chilean's prospects for Hannover.

The surface for the ATP Championship will be a medium-pace hard court, similar to the United States Open, in place of the customary carpet. Udo Riglewski, the tournament director, explained that the change had been made following a survey of former participants. "The majority favoured a slower surface," Riglewski said. "An obvious advantage is that the crowd can hope to see more interesting

rallies." Next week's Paris Open indoor tournament lost four more players vesterday when Goran Ivanisevic, Andrei Medvedev, Albert Costa and Karel Kucera withdrew.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Castleford pick up pair for nothing

Castleford have signed two players made homeless by the collapse of their clubs. Cas, who avoided relegation from Super League this year, have taken Francis Maloney, whose Oldham chib are in liquidation after themselves going down, and Barrie-Jon Mather from the Perth Reds in Australia.

The Reds have been killed off by Super League, leaving Mather as a free agent. The former England centre interested the London Broncos and his old club, Wigan.

Maloney, a stand-off, has become the latest player to leave Oldham amid the continuing doubts over their future.

The Rugby League's board of directors was discussing yesterday evening whether it will be possible for Oldham to field a side next season. Maloney is the latest in a series of players to find new clubs without transfer fees following Oldham's failure to pay them.

Salford, who have already signed one scrum-half in Oldham's Martin Crompton, have added another by recruiting London's Josh White, also without a fee.

Tommy Martyn has told St Helens he wants to leave. The stand-off, who has not played since injuring his knee in May, says that he was promised an upgrading of his contract after Saints' victory at Wembley, but that nothing has been done.

The Wigan winger Jason Robinson will be added to Great Britain's squad for the opening Test against Australia on Monday after the negotiations over his release from a contract with the Australian Rugby League are completed over the weekend.

Wigan and the ARL have agreed a deal in principle, but the mechanics of repaying money he has received from the

ARL remain to be finalised. The Great Britain coach. Andy Goodway, intends to reduce his squad to 18 for the Test on 1 November. His two injury doubts are the Leeds stand-off Iestyn Harris who has a sore back and the St Helens booker Keiron Cunningham who is recovering from a hernia op-

Kirsten carries his bat and South Africa

Henry Biofeld reports from Faisalabad South Africa 239 Pakistan 41-2

CRICKET

The high drama of this series continues. After winning the toss in the third and final Test match. South Africa decided to bat on a pitch which had a patchy covering of grass and went into lunch in complete disarray at 99 for 7. Afterwards, Gary Kirsten and Pat Symcox took their remarkable eighth-wicket stand to 124 and, finally, two Pakistan wickets in the evening has left things evenly poised.

Kirsten, lucky to survive an

Wasim Akram when he was two, went on to become only the fourth South African ever to carry his bat through a Test innings. His 100 not out was not without its own drama either as all the television and radio scorers had him on 99 not out although the scoreboard showed a hundred. There was an inexplicable dispute over a leg bye.

The most extraordinary moment in another exceptional day's cricket came when Symcox, who started his first-class career as a batsman, was 56. Mushtaq Ahmed bowled him a flipper, which flicked the inside edge of the bat and went between the top of the middle and off stumps without removing the bails. Afand endless television replays, Symcox continued his innings. All this after Mushtaq and

Wasim had not been prevented from bowling between 10 and 20 deliveries on the match pitch the evening before the game began. They were apparently watched by the secretary and also a member of the Pakistan Board of Control and by the head groundsman, who had earlier prevented Bob Woolmer, the South African coach, from bouncing a ball behind the bowling crease.

Although there is no law specifically preventing this - after this, there soon will be - it is a time honoured rule that no player may use the pitch until The United Cricket Board of South Africa has made a complaint, and Ranjan Madugalle, the Sri Lankan match referee, has referred it all to Lord's. In spite of the grounds-

man's promise to the contrary, the pitch was mown again, late on Thursday, but there was enough grass to make Wasim and Waqar Younis very dangerous in the first hour. They took two wickets each bowling a testing off-stump line. Mushtag then took the next three. After lunch, Pakistan were

held up as Symcox produced strokes not usually associated with a No 9 and reached his highest score. Kirsten fought on to the end, facing 208 balls and

M McMillen c sub b Wasim

J Cullinen low b Waser

J Cullinen low b Waser

M Policok c Assmir Sched b Mushtag

M Policok c Assmir Sched b Mushtag

L Symcox b Waser

R Adams Bow b Auther

R Adams Bow b Auther

Storage (b4 83 nb5) Falt 1-2 2-11 3-12 4-30 5-40 8-84 7-98 8-222

South Africa won toss SOUTH AFRICA - First limings

PAKISTAN - First Inchage

Feat: 1-10 2-19. b bat: Aamir Sohail, †Moin Khan, Wasim *Isram,* Waqar Young, A*zhar Mahmood, Musi*-yo, Ahmad, Saqiain Mushtaq,

 "My backs OK, It's my hair I'm worned about." Genry Francis, the Tottenham manager, has more important things on his mind. The problem with fans is that they apply pressure which forces you to bring in some other idiot who is going to ruln the team more than the pro-fessional you already have in place." The Spurs chairman, Alan Sugar.

"Im shocked in all my 28 years in football I have never seen such a bad team performance." Kenny Dalglish after Newcastle's 4-1 defeat

SAILING: WHITBREAD ROUND-THE-WORLD RACE

Skipper Dickson laments costly two minutes for Toshiba

With Mark Fischer bringing Chessie Racing into Cape Town overnight, Chris Dickson's Toshiba beating Ross Field's America's Challenge in for breakfast and Gunnar Krantz's Swedish Match arriving for evening cocktails, only two yachts were still at sea yesterday on the first leg of the Whit-

winds off Portugal cost Toshiba, the race favourite, two days, according to Dickson. He was referring to a time just four days into the leg when the boats to the west of him tacked away and out into the Atlantic while he was trapped to the east.

thinner crew had still battled

A tired and considerably

Two minutes of perverse hard all the way. "It's a bad result, but not a disaster," Dickson, who finished sixth, said. Toshiba will have 12 crew on

board for the second leg to Fremantle which starts on 8 November. Field will also increase his muscle power by one and will also have to find a replacement for his son, Campbell, who needs further

treatment on the remains of his amoutated finger. WHITEREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE (first leg, 7,350 miles, Southempton to Cape Town): 1 EF Language (Sun) 2 C

(first leg. 7,350 miles, Southempton to Cape Town): 1 EF Language (Swe) P Cayard 29 days ishr 54min 28sac; 2 Merit Cup (Monaco) G Dakton; 3 Impostion Kvaemer (No) K Frestad: 4 Sik Cut (GS) L Smith: 5 Chassie Racing (US) M Flacher; 6 Toshiba (US) C Dickson; 7 Americals Challenge (US) R Field; 8 Swedish Match (Swe) G Krantz. Still to finish: 9 EF Education (Swe) C Guillou 292 miles to go; 10 Brunel Sunergy (Neth) H Bouschofte 597.

– Stuart Alexander

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

The FA is like Madame Tussaud's. We tell our people to keep them moving so we can tell them apart from the dummies," Alan Sugar at the Oxford Union.

"its the same old story and its driving me round the bend." Roy Evens, the Liverpool manager, after his team's humiliation in the Ueta Cup against

"I don't believe evil should triumph and he was an evil man." Chelses chairman, Ken Bates fondly recalls Matthew Harding, his former vice-chairman, who died a year ago in a helicopter crash.

SPORTING DIGEST

RACING RESULTS

NEWBURY
2,10: 1. VICTORY TEAM (R Studnolme)
11-1; 2. Zurs 8-1 |t iev; 3. Teffe Well 8-1 |t
iev; 4. Scissor Ridge 20-1: 23 ran. 'A, hd.
(G Beiding, Pyfield). Tothe: P1280; 2270; 5150.
22.20: \$230; Dual Forecast: \$2780. CSF:
F7322 Wesst: \$70553. Tito: \$430. Non Runner. Lunch Perry.
2.40: 1. WHITECHAPEL (T Quirn) 10-1;
2. Jasser 7-4 izn-3. Etterby Park 25-1. 11
ran. Ni. Sh-hd. (Lord Hurtingdon, West Isley). Rote: \$1280; \$230. \$130. \$500. DF:
\$1200. CSF: \$2254. Tricast: \$403.21. Tric:
\$18440.

\$48.40.
3.10: 1. LA-FAAH (R HBs) 9-1; 2. Sensory 10-1; 3. Victory Note 9-2. 8 ran. 7-4
tar Duck Row (8th) 1½, 1 (8 HBs, Lambourn).
Tota: \$3.00; £2.20, £2.20, £2.00, DF: £18.30.
CSF: £78.26.
3.40: 1. MY BEST VALENTINE (R
Cachrane) 10-1; 2. Brave Edge 20-1; 3.
tande Ca 8-1; 4. Double Action 5-1 fev.
Fran. 1¼, ½, (V Scarne, Aston Rowand,
Tôta: £18.00; £2.10, £3.00, £2.20, £170, DF:
£2.850, CSF: £18.465, Tricast: £971.32, Tric:
£378.70. \$378.70. 4.10: 1. CONSPICUOUS (A Daly) 25-1;

4.16: 1. CONSPICUOUS (A Daly) 25-1;
2. Top Jess 12-1; 3. Steep Consul 13-2 fav;
4. Bubble Wings 9-1 21 ran. Int. 2'/s. (L.G.
Cotirel, Cullempton). Tota: 58450; \$850,
52-40, \$190, \$2-70. DF: £332.50. CSF:
5252.57. Tricast: \$2013.05. Thio: £204.20.
4.40: 1. MCWELGA (Dectan O'Shee)
12-1; 2. Ricardo 100-30; 3. Mary Cull 50-1.
14 ran. 11-10 fav, Shadlam (4th), strh. 4; 2/s.
(Lady Herries, Listichampton). Tota: \$190;
52-90, \$140, \$1720, DF: \$2000 CSF: \$4632.
Thio: £4550; \$4480 carried tonand to Doncesser 445 today. Non Runner: Privis, Sepentara. Sepentara (3-1) withdrawn; Rule
4 applies to board prices only, deduct 250 in the £.

in the C.
5.10:1. MISTER RAMBO (M Technit) 20-1; 2. Fa-Eq 11-10 far; 3. Upitting 15-2. 24 ran. nk, 11/4. (B Meehan, Lamboum). Total ES-20; 2000, D40, E250. DF: 210810. CSF: 14236 Trio: £16730 84256 Trio: £16730 Jackpot: not wort; £233,26094 carried for-ward to Doncaster today. Place 8: £36820. Guadpot: £83.50 Place 8: £53372. Place 8: £164,24 DONCASTER

2.00; 1, ZAYA (Paul Eidery) 9-4; 2, Legai Lunch 16-1; 3, Kiscullen 9-1, 12 ran. 2-1 fav Joint Regent (Bin), 2, 14, (Saecel 20, Saecel 20, Saece

2.50: 1. MANTY GAMER (C Lowfish) 7-1: 2. Davis Rock 8-1; 3. Caudillo 16-1, 22 ran-4-1 fav Plan For Profit (4th) 1/4, 1/4, U Berry, Consistent Total 2500; 2350; 2250; 2550; DF: C2220, CSF: 55788, Tric: 521/40, 3.00: 1. MERCH ESS (J Carroll) 11-2, 2. Silver Rhapsody 2-1 tay, 3. Puture 3-1 18 ran. 11, 31/s. (Speed bin Suspor, Newmarketi. Tote: £1130; £330, £170, £190, DF: £1490, CSF: £1576, Tho: £880, 3.30: 1. JAWAH (C Lowther) 10-1; 2. Si-lence in Court 25-1; 3. Ali On 14-1; 4. Cam-

people 10-1 18 rate. 10-30 faw Moon Colony (6th) 14, 3 (K Mahol, Newmarket). Tota: \$12.0; \$2.20, \$2.80, \$2.30, \$2.30. DF: \$32770. CSF: \$23145. Tricast: \$22502. Tric £8.40; £3626 carried forward to Doncester 445 today. 4.00: 1. Panama House (G Ouffield) 20-1: 2. Dutch Lad 11-4 fay; 3. Winse 13-2.14 ran. ½, 3½. (T Sasterby, Melion) Totac 22150; C340, £150, £220 DF: £8300 CSF: 2215; 3340; E180; 4221 br. 18300 csr. 18438 Tricast: E39827. Tric. 125840. 4.30: 1. AMERICAN WHISPER (C Lowther) 12-1; 2. Secret Ballot 4-1 far; 3. Night Mirage 9-1; 4. Zoom Up 9-1, 16 ran. 3. 4. (P Hartis, Berkhamsted). Totac 21230; 1280; 1180; 1280;

£11280.

1: 2. Legend of Aragon 20-1; 3. King Uno
4-1 fay; 4. Fancy A Fortune 20-1; 2. King Uno
4-1 fay; 4. Fancy A Fortune 20-1; 22 ran.
1½, ½, ½ Watts, Richmond), Tosic £18,05;
£340, £570, £170, £780, DF; £26540, CSF;
£30735, Tircast: £y44488, Tiro: £28680.
Places pot: £39730, Guadpot: £3830.
Place 6: £22142, Place 5: £9408.

Piece 6: £22142. Place 5: £9406.

FAKENHAM

2.20: 1. Highly REPUTABLE (R Durwoody) 4-1; 2. Red Light 11-2: 3. Sylven
Sabre 11-2.9 ran. 3-1 for Dubel Doly, Sh-hd,
1½, (G Breseny), Tabe: £550; £220; £190,
£250. DF: £1290. CSF: £2457. Tricest:
£1142. Tric: £10771. NR: Scorched At.
2.50: 1. TrS URBELL EVABLE (M Durne)
7-2; 2. Cyelli Henry 13-6; 3. Johan-Jack 5-1,
4 ran. 6-4 fay Oh So Handy, 3½, dat. (P
Ecoles). Tohe: £300. DF: £400. CSF: £908.
NR: Nswihall Prince.
3.20: 1. PEACE LORD (LIF Titley) 8-13
320: 1. PEACE LORD (LIF Titley) 8-13
320: 2. Highland Flames 33-1; 3. Spring Sun-

3.20: 1. PEACE LORD (I F Titley) 8-13 for 2. Highland Flame 33-1; 3. Spring Samries 7-2. 5 ran., 8; 4. (Mrs D Herse). Total Critic Frag. 27th. DF: 53370. CSF: £1429. 3.50: 1. NOBLE TOM (A Megure) 7-4 fav.; 2. Slightly Special 10-1; 3. Hollthem Bay 25-1. 9 ran. 1/, 2. (P Eccles). Total: £220; £150, £220; £380. DF: £840. CSF: £825. Titles: £530747. Thi: £14040. 4.30: 1. MiSTY CAY (Fi Thornton) 4-5 fav.; 2. Slaver Secret 11-4; 3. Melithanod 8-1. 7 ran. 6. 2. (Mrs V Werd). Total: £200; £150, £150. DF: £250. CSF: £357. 4.50: 1. MANOR MIETO (A P McCoy) 4-1; 2. Rudfy's Boy 2-1; 3. Kippsmour 10-1.5 fam. 11-0 fav Secon Mead (felt). 5. dist. (G Prodromod). Total: £540; £190, £150. DF: £160. CSF: £221.

CSF: £1211. 5.20: 1. LARIEDO (C Scudder) 7-4; 2. Missed Call 5-2; 3. Vicar'a Vase 6-4 tax. 6 rim. 2, 8. (Noel T Chance). Tota: £300; £150, £210. DF: £480. CSF: £549. Place 6: £82.24. Place 5: £43.72.

Badminton

Bright Anno V CHRNA (Mount Murray Hotel and Casatry Club, Santon): Match 4 of 8: T Wood-word lost to P Hongyen 5: 1-4: I; E Chalfin 8: Hardwar lost to Liu Zhong 8: Hueng Nanyan 8-15-3: S; M Constable lost to J Xingpang 8-15-1-7; J Anderson 8: I Sulfiven lost to Chang Ru 8: Wang Wei 18-14, 13-15: 12-15; C Hunt 8: S Hardstein lost to Zhu Feng 8: If Hingyen 15-8: 6-15: 12-15: England 0 China 5.

Baseball

Boxing
Mexican Julio Cesar Chavez, whose
World Boxing Council light-weiterweight title flight against compatriot
Miguel Angel Gonzalez was postponed until January after his injured
his left elbow in training, has undergone surgery on the Injury.
Lennox Lawis could defend his WBC
heavyweight title against Americans
James "Buster" Douglas or Lou
Saverese, the British championis manager, Frank Maloney, announced yealengers for a 21 February defence in
Les Veges if Lewis cannot get a unification light against the winner of the
8 November Evander HolyfieldMichael Moorer bouf.
Allatteur WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (Budiness stated): Flyweight (81 kg): M
Merdia (Cube) bt O Nerveaz (Arg) 17-3; Pazapov (Rus) bt B Daumedlov (Kez) 18-10.

Cricket

Hugh Morts is the new technical di-rector of the England and Wales Crick-et Board. Morris, 34, played for Glamorgan for 17 seesons and was captain of Englands A team on three oversees tours.

OVERSESS TOURS.
TOUR MATCH (Caims, Aus.) Third day of four. New Zestand 186 (B Pocock 63) and 180 four 4 (S Fleming Stree); Queensland 571 for 9 dec (bit Love 201 ret hur?)
SHEFFELD SHIELD: Sydney (third day of four); Vetoria 509 for 60ec and 178 for 4 (if New by 61 no); New South Wales 407 for 4 dec (S Waugh 202no, S Lee 61 no) Perth (second day of four); Western Australia 477 for 5dec (A Glichrist 203no, T Moody 101); South Australia 244 for 6. WORLD PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS (Bogsor Regis): H Robinson and G Verrier bt D Smith and J Part 6-5: C Mason and S Pass bs G Mas-son and S Brown 6-5: R Barneselt and R Schollen bs D Allsop and M Robinson 6-3: S Burgess and G Stoddart bs J Luca and J Um-berrier 6-3:

URSDAY'S LATE RESULTS: European p-winners' Cup second round first leg-mso L 3 Chelses 2; Germinal Busten (Bel)

Football

Rumso II. 3 Chelses 2; Germfred Borren (Bel)
DVB Sturger (Ger); Lichtmofe Mescow (Rus)
2 Kocselispor (Tur) 1; Sheixhtar Donetsk (Uir)
1 Vicertza (II) 1, AEK Athers (Gr) 2 Sum Graz
(Aut) 0; Nice (Fr) 2 Sieve Prague (Cc Rep) 2;
Phimorje Accessoris (Sloven) of Flock JC Kerleade
(Neth) 2; Real Belle (Sp) 2 Copenhagen (Den)
0. Fall National langue Primiser Division: Durcialt 1 Drophede Utd 1; Poptins League Premiser Division: Eventon 4 Liverpool 3, Langue
Cup Group Timer Derby 2 Weissil 1; Fa Youth
Cup Thard qualifying rotand: Great Weisering
Rovers 3 King's Lynn 2.

GOIF

ART FRANCE OPEN (Desuville, Fr) Leading first-round scores (GB or int unless stated): 67 S Wayn? (Aus.): 68 S Proser; 70 V Micriguet (Fr) S Merchauru (Fr): 71 M-T Pistole-Bosel (Fr): Lisunber (Aus.) M Logist (Swe): L Newart; 150 M. Hard (Sp), M Heddrom (Swe). L Newart; 151 M. Arus (Sp), M Heddrom (Swe). A Nicholas, M Macte, R Lautens (Bwitt, J Castenier (Fr), M-L de Lorente (Fr): 78 Moon (LS). N Marray, T Craft. C Schmitt (Fr): 75 F Descarnos (Be). H Westworth D Dowling, S Elect. M Surion. A Arnal (Sp), K Raylor, N Moult, K Mourgue (Mays.) R Cantrado (Sp), J Fortes, J Schleby, 77 F Descarnos (New), L Hard (Sp), M Health, 15 Schleby, 15 February, 15 Februar

Ice hockey The North American National Hock-ey League's Edmonton Ollers have been sold to Les Alexander, the own-er of the National Basketball Association team Houston Rockets. Appartently, Alexander will purchase the team for about \$85m (£52m), and these it in Edmonton for a minimum of three years.

NHL Temps Bay 2 Boston 2, New Jessey 2 Montreal 1 (of; Florids 2 Ottowe 2; Philadelphis 4 Calgary 2; St. Loue 4 Verscover 1; Datroit 4 Los Angeles 1; Washington 3 Phoenis 3.

Rallying

year in an official capacity for the first time since 1995. Finlands Jarmo Kytolehto and co-driver Atto Kapanen are to drive the new Astra in all rounds of the British Chempionship and the World Chempionship Network Q RAC

Rugby League
The Filter rugby international Noa
Nachuku was sacked yesterday by his
Super League club, Cariberra Palders,
for gross missonduct after punching
two women in a drunker stupor.
Raiders management acted after
Nachuku was acquitted in court on Wednesday on the grounds that he was too drunk to form the necessary intent to assault the women. Nadruku was said to have drunk more than 14 litres of beer plus wine in an 11-hour bings.

Sailing Sailing
Tracy Edwards has abandoned her attempt to set a new record for sailing round Britain and Ireland in her 92th catamaran Royal & Sun Allianca. Earlier in the year she also abandoned a transattantic record attempt. Edwards felt she would not be able to make up time lost by trying to go round the Shetands in light headwinds and so disped south of the Orkneys to sail down the North Sea and home to Hamble on the south coast. The record remains five days 21th The record remains five days 21hr 5min 21sec, set by the American Steve Fosset in 1994 in the much smaller 60ft trimaran Lakota.

Skiing
WORLD CUP (Tignes, Fr) Men's persitel
sistent firmit J Stroil (Aut) bt K-A Asmoot (Nor).
Third place H Maier (Aut) bt N opticher (Aut).
Women's parallel sistem firmit: L Piccard (Fr)
by Y Nowen (Sive). Third place: A Malagaritzer
(Aut) bt M Erti (Ger)

Spooker

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S OPEN (Melbourne, Aust) Guarthe-finale: L. Irving (Aus) bf C Overne (Aus) 28-90-29-79-79 Bearns (NZ) tx C. Jackoman (188) 4-94-99-4-9-19-7; S. Fitz-Gerald (Aus) bt C. Niko (SA) 8-2-8-7; M. Martin (Aus) bt L. Joyce (NZ) 9-4-9-0-9-0. Tennis EUROCARD OPEN MEN'S TOURNAMENT (Sturigert, Ger) Quarter-finalist P Korda (Cz Pep) Dt M Rocs (Chile) 6-3 6-4.

6 .

MEXICAN OPEN (Mexico City) Singles sec-ond round: J.A Vince (Sp) bt C Costa (Sp) 64 63; F Clavel (Sp) bt J Burlio (Sp) 3-6 64 7-5; A Sa (Br) bt L Hismars (Mex) 2-5 6-3 6-4; J.A Marin (Sp) bt A Hernandez (Mex) 6-3 4-6 6-4 Vauxhall are to return to reliying next

BELL CHALLENGE TOURNAMENT (Cumbed) Singles, accound round: M A Verdo (Men) bit N 122226 (7) 64 6-3; D van Roose (Sed) br A Miller (US) 6-1 7-5; M Grzybowske (Pol) bit M de Swerto (SA) 62 2-6 6-3.
WITA LINCEMISOURG OPEN TOURNAMENT Singles, mixer round: 5 Appelment (Sed) bit H Subowa (C2 Rep) 6-3 6-7 6-2; B Plauba (Au) bit A Maurento (F1) 7-6-6-3; C Suderlicose (Sinwall) bit N (F0 (US) 6-4-6-3; C Suderlicose (Sinwall) bit N (F0 (US) 6-6-6-4; C umrite-finalis: K Studenlicose (Sinwall) bit J Kouner (SA) 6-7. BELL CHALLENGE TOURNAMENT (Quabeo

Watte (Willia) 6-2 8-0; T somes your only un-gregory (Stoven) 7-8 6-1. Semi-finale: Weel by Hillion 6-4 8-3; Spinles bit Hund 6-7 6-3 6-4. Womer: J Pulin (Sussey) bit D Coverous (Sto-vel) 6-1 6-0; J Lutrous (Rus) bit L Ogen (Wes-wick) 6-2 6-0; E Erbons (Cz. Ripp) bit 2 Goldpercare (Hun) wor. L Ant (Deven) bit N Whodhouse (Nortidi) 6-0 6-1 Semi-finale: Pulin bit Lutrous 6-3 6-0; Ahl bit Brows 6-1 6-4.

TODAY'S NUMBER

£100,000

The amount three young British racing drivers have each received as a scholarship to the world's only motor sport university, Elf La Filière, in France. During the year, they will study car handling, maintenance and business and also take part in all 12 rounds of next year's Renault Campus Formu-

BASEBALL: WORLD SERIES

Marlins have advantage

Livan Hernandez, a Cuban who defected, pitched his fourth post-season victory and Moises Alou hit a threerun homer to move the Florida Marlins within one victory of a World Series title on Thursday.

Alou drove in four runs and scored twice to power the Marlins past the Cleveland Indians 8-7, giving Florida a 3-2 lead in the best-of-seven series. The win gave Heman-

dez, the National League Championship Series' Most Valuable Player, a chance of Series MVP honours but it was not pretty. As well as striking out two batters he gave up eight walks and seven hits.

Alou hit his third homer

HOCKEY

the game.

Not for many years has it ence, but is delighted. "In-

King admits that he is at a loss to explain the differ-

Billy Mims and Kevin Cadle threw smoke screens around at the London Arena.

face being without a key player for the clash between the Budweiser League's toptwo clubs, although tour placed Birmingham have the table's only unbeaten record.

Leopards' Youngblood is anxious to return from the ankle injury which has sidelined him for a month. Mims said: "Roberts was desperate to play last weekend but he has to run on his legs, not his

SKIING

Whirlwind's vintage show

SNOOKER

Jimmy White produced a Josef Strobl and Leila Picvintage performance at the Bournemouth Grand Prix yesterday to cruise into the semi-finals with a 5-0 de- races of the World Cup on molition of Mick Price.

It took "The Whirlwind" only 64 minutes to reach the last four of a ranking tournament for the first time since events - downhill, superthe 1995 world championship. He opened with a break of 105 and added breaks of 83 in the third and 94 in the fifth. White now meets Do-

minic Dale tonight for a place in tomorrow's final. Snooker in pink, page 18 a single World Cup race.

troversial plays in the eighth and drove home another run in the ninth. Hernandez gave up a

three-run homer to Sandy Alomar in the third innings which put Cleveland 4-2 ahead. But Hernandez retired the next 13 batters, restricting the home side to one hit, and no runs, in the next four-and-a-third innings.

of the Series in the sixth,

scored after two con-

Florida edged into an 8-4 advantage but Cleveland hit back in the ninth inning, scoring three runs.

But Alomar was caught in right field to end the game, meaning Cleveland have to win in Florida on Saturday and Sunday to pick up the

spirational leadership from

Williamson has played its

part. But generally the play-

ers are confident, unbeaten.

and if we go behind as we

did at Cannock last week we

goals and getting back into

For today's game

Williamson (wrist) is out

and 18-year old Kulraj Lid-

dard plays his last game be-

fore going to Australia to

play for Sydney for a year.

follows the blossoming of

Adrian Simons after his performances for England in

the Junior World Cup at

- Bill Colwill

Milton Keynes last month.

he's at least 80 per cent fit

before I put him on the floor

for any minutes in the

James Hamilton for a

Cadle has been without

Southgate's current form

captain Mike

game's greatest prize.

Hounslow's King confident

been possible to label today's encounter between Hounslow and Southgate at Chiswick as the National League's match of the day. The two outstanding teams of the Seventies and Eighties have not had to unare confident of scoring lock their trophy cabinets

very often in recent years. This morning they are both unbeaten and sitting second and third in the Premier. Not that there have been many changes in the squads, Hounslow's only addition has been Brett Gillmon from Loughborough Students, described by manager Paul King as "a born

BASKETBALL Youngblood keen to play heart. I'll have to be sure

their injury problems before tomorrow's match between the capital's title contenders The Greater London Leopards coach, Mims, and London Towers' Cadle each

month with an injured groin. and in his first practice last week Hamilton damaged his ankle. Towers' 84-69 defeat at nome to the German ciu Rhondorf on Tuesday could have ended their hopes of

game.

reaching the European Cup knock-out stage. Garnet Gayle made a stunning home debut for Leicester on Thursday when his three-pointer on the buzzer beat Derby 136-134

after triple overtime. - Richard Taylor

Novel win for Strobl

card made winning starts to the new season when they won the opening parallel the Tignes glacier yesterday.

Strobl, an Austrian who has World Cup victories behind him in three different giant slalom and giant slalom, added a fourth in a discipline which had not featured in

the World Cup for 22 years. Piccard's victory was far more unexpected as the Frenchwoman had not won

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THE **GAFFER TAPES**

Sport in the United

down to simple

it really add up?

States tends to come

arithmetic in the end

but, asks John Carlin, does

There is one thing, and perhaps one thing only, that the United

is necessarily inconclusive.

It'll be a relief to get back to playing football at the Old Cornfield today as we've had a nightmare week. It all started the same day Naseem Hamed was opening the new burger bar next door.

It was terrible, no sooner had they caught sight of each other than there were Cornburgeverywhere. Eubank got so upset when his monocle was tied Naz to a lamp-post with half-a-dozen suspender belts from the new line of tasteful club lingerie. Fortunately Cliff Phace, our centre-half, was around to calm it down. Once Chris and Naz get out of hospital we'll probably all have a good laugh about it.

Not that anyone is in the mood for a giggle at the Old Comfield. We've had a major internal inquiry this week afwhen we discovered we'd ter a cache of food and drink booked Chris Eubank to open was found in a coolbox behind the new club megastore on a dressing-room locker. We've they've paid off the money they got a very careful diet at this club and players are under strict orders about what to eat and when to eat it.

The finger of suspicion is on the Italians. They've been uners and branded leisure wear happy with the regime since they got here and you must admit the stash - pasta, beans, fresh fruit thrown in the deep fat frier he and veg, extra virgin olive oil and could be guilty.

Personally, I'm disappointed. If they come over here they should adapt to our ways: bacon butties and a cup of tea before training, a break for Hob-Nobs and coffee at 11, steak and Yorkshire pud for lunch washed Kings Cross.

down with a pint of lager top. If it was good enough for Skinner Normanton it should be good enough for Doke Vita and Cosi Fan Tutti. Fortunately they're only here on loan. Once lost on bets on the England game they can go back.

The cash will come in handy

as the chairman's credit card bill has come in. As 1 mentioned a few weeks ago I accidentally ran up half a million lire on it at the Hot Hands Massage Club in Rome. It's a a dose of salts in the second bit of a problem as the only way bottled water - does suggest they 'Sir Hirem could convince his wife that it wasn't him was by blaming me. This is fair enough in one way but it could leave to major difficulties for me especially as Sir Hirem also told her I was responsible for a £250 bill from the Black Lace Bar at

points last week. It's really chair being installed for him in hard motivating the players these days, they all earn so much money a win bonus is no more of an incentive than a packet of Smarties. You've got to be a bit cleverer than that so at half-time, with us 2-0 down, I told them I'd spiked one of the Gatorade bottles with laxative and it would be handed, without his knowledge, to the

worst player in the side. We went through them like half winning 5-2. The only problem was I missed the last two goals as I had to go to the dressing-room sharpish. With the heat last Saturday I got thirsty doing all that celebrating and... yes, you've guessed it and it's not funny.

Meanwhile, the attempt to sign Paul Gascoigne has hit a

At least we picked up three snag. He insists the dentist's the Mop & Bucket is in the lounge bar, not the tap room. "Wa'hay mon," he told Sir Hirem. "I'm a changed mon, I dima go in tap rooms anymore. Me, I'm mature me, I'm a lounge bar drinker." The landlord, however, has refused. He says a dentist's chair would lower the tone of the lounge bar and, besides, it would get in the way of the stripper.

A few injury worries for today's game. Cliff Phace has a broken hand, Shaun Prone has food poisoning which is a bit worrying as his wife runs the burger bar, while Ivor Niggle has strained a muscle watching television - apparently it was that programme about Sunday Sport. And I've got dysentry.

Barry Gaffer was talking to

SIDELINES

Barnsley's links with Old Trafford

Barnsley supporters at Old Trafford today may take a greater interest than most away fans in the memorial clock which freezes the time



and date of the Munich air crash in 1958. For among the Manchester United legends who died were two from the South Yorkshire coal capital, Tommy Taylor and Mark Jones.

Taylor, from the tough suburb of Smithies, went from

being the Barnsley apprentice who took home £2/8s/1d in his first wage packet to England's centre-forward after a £29,999 transfer to United (Matt Busby did not want him burdened by a £30,000 price tag). Jones, a centre-half from Ardsley, was snapped up by United from school.

United's first championship side, in 1909, contained two ex-Barnsley men, George Wall and George Stacey, who later worked in the pit and docks respectively. A prolific scorer between the wars, Ernest Hine, started and finished at

or between the wars, griest rune, stated and England.

Oakwell after representing United and England.

Alex Ferguson's first major signing, Viv Anderson, became Barnsley's player-manager, with Deiniol Graham and Andy Rammell also arriving from United. Graham was one of Fergie's Fledglings, and there might have been a third Busby Babe from Barnsley. Local prodigy Colin Brookes was United's youngest reserve player at 15, months before Munich. Homesick, he soon returned to become Barnsley's youngest too.

Ten things Man Utd's Karel Poborsky might be missing from the Czech Rep



The influences of Franz slivovice (plum brandy dera. (Although Poborsky cohol.) regularly experiences the unbearable lightness of being left on the bench). 2 Knedlo-zelo-vepro. Dumplings, sauerkraut

and roast pork. 3 The mixture of Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque and bered for his film themes. Art Nouveau architecture 8 The bears, wolves, lynxthat makes Manchester es, marmots, marten and look like a grim industri- mink of Bohemia. al wasteland in compari- 9 The Karlovy Vary spa, son to Prague. Not that it known especially for its

4 Tripe soup. 5 Beer towns (Pilsn, Bu-

Kafka and Milan Kun- with up to 90 per cent al-6 The allure of the Skoda - although a Skoda in

Manchester is less likely to be stolen than most cars. 7 The jazz-rock scene that inspired such renowned musicians as Jan Hamr, best remem-

rhoea and constipation. 10 Playing chess with hudowice. Velkopopovicke). man pieces in the town of wine regions (Zernoseky Cesky Krumlov with his and Roudnice) and Czech mates.

NAME OF THE GAME NO 6 THE COBBLERS

Northampton Town were formed in 1897 and became known as "The Cobblers" due to the amount of shoe manufacturing in Northamptonshire. The county is still the base for the Dr Marten's footwear empire of Max Griggs, who used to be on the board at Northampton, but is now the chairman of Rushden & Diamonds of the Vauxhall Conference.





so in the Arctic Circle on

Thursday, they might rea-

sonably have expected the

game to have been aban-

doned when conditions de-

teriorated. The modern

game, however, proved to be

braver (or more foolbardy)

than in years past (when

the weather was respected).

gentina in Buenos Aries on

17 May 1953, a monsoon

struck and the pitch rapid-

ly became waterlogged. The

referee stopped the game af-

ter 23 minutes when pad-

game ever took place in

1894, when a blizzard, much

like last Thursday's, struck as

Stoke played Wolves, It took

the referee all of three min-

utes to stop proceedings,

The shortest English

dling became necessary.

When England met Ar-

On 21 October 1989, Liver- When Chelsea played Trompool crashed to a 4-1 defeat at Southampton and the inevitable questions were soon being asked about Liverpool's future. One newspaper report the next day said: "Southampton didn't just annihilate them, they produced a blueprint that, if followed by others, would end the omnipotence Liverpool have enjoyed for so long in English football."

The winning Southampton team, under Chris Nicholl, included Matt Le Tissier, Alan Shearer, Rod Wallace, Paul Rideout and Neil Ruddock. The losers, managed by Kenny Dalglish, had lan Rush, Peter Beardsley and Alan Hansen in : their number.

Sadly for Liverpool's rivals, reports of their demise proved premature, and they abandon the game and send

won the title in the spring. the crowd of 400 home.

THIS WEEK'S TRANSFERS

TRANSFERS: Paul Peschisolido (striker) West Bromwich Albion to Fulham (£1.1m): Mertas Sheleilah (defender) Alania Viadikavkaz (Russia) to Manchester City (£500,000): Lee Richardson (midhelder) Huddersfield to Oldham (£65,000): David Walton (defender) Shrewsbury to Ipswich (£500,000): Obougle Freeman (striker) Crystal Palace to Wolverhampton Wanderers (£800,000): Kevin

Muscat (defender) Crystal Palace to Wolverhampton Wanderers (£200,000); Jamie Smith (defender) Wolverhampton Wanderers to Crystal Palace (£4m); Glenn Helder (midfielder), Arsenal to NAC Breda (Netherlands, undisclosed fee); Pauf Cook (midfielder) Tranmere Rovers to Stockport County (£250,000), TRIAL: Ilian Kirtakov (midfield), Aberdeen to Botton (one week).

Contributors: Phil Shaw, Nick Harris Readers' contributions welcome. Send to Skietines. Sports Desk, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL



Right first time: DC United's John Harkes hoists the trophy aloft after his side won the inaugural Major League Soccer championship last year Photograph: Rick Stewart/Allsport

According to figures supplied by the MLS, in 1,725

Welcome to America:

States can teach the rest of the the 63 shots he has attempted world about soccer. Statistics. In Britain, in Italy, in Sierra 26 were on target. Leone soccer fans will endlessly debate the merits of player X clination to study all of the versus player Y. Because in such debates the arguments are always subjective the outcome

Not so in the US where each player's performance is Henderson. evaluated scientifically on the As for the goalkeepers in the basis of painstakingly assembled numerical data. Take the statistics for to-(MLS) Cup Final, the game in 25 appearances, conceding an

morrow's Major League Soccer which will decide the 1997 championship. The teams are compared with the United keep-DC United the defending champions, and Colorado Rapids, who last season ended up bottom of the 10-team professional US league.

United's striker is Bolivia's Jaime Morego. The Rapids' striker is the home-grown Chris Henderson. Which is the better

minutes of play over 20 games this season, Moreno has scored I6 goals (five of them winning goals), delivered eight assists and had a total of 66 shots, 48 of them on target. Henderson, by contrast, has played 2,501 minutes over 30 games, scored seven goals with 14 assists (two of them winning assists) and of

If you had the time and inabove figures and work out a couple of averages you could probably declare - with a certain precision - that Moreno was three times better than

big game, one published analysis gives the advantage to the Rapids, whose first-choice keeper has saved 111 out of 144 shots overage of 1.54 goals per game; er's 57 saves from 87 shots in 1 games, letting in an average of 1.69 goals per game.

Admirable as American soccer's fixation with numerical minutiae undoubtedly is, eagerly as the example may be followed by obsessives elsewhere, including Britain where statistics are much more readily available

than they once were, it is possible that here we have part of the explanation why in the land of the free the game has not really caught on yet as a spectator sport. All this number-crunching

misses the point about soccer. It is a game where the inscrutable human factor is paramount, where the disciplines of science are of limited diagnostic value. American football, by contrast, lends itself much more to logical analysis. The players are more like gigantic chess pieces than individuals blessed with free will. The coaches and their numerous assistant technicians are the ones that move the pieces, their decisions determined by intricate geometrical and mathematical calculations.

Perhaps it is soccer's relative randomness that moved a sports writer on the Kansas City Star to observe last week that "the biggest trick in Kansas City - as in other parts of the country is convincing people that soccer is more than a kid's game".

As the MLS concludes its second season tomorrow, the great unanswered question remains whether the gap between children's soccer and professional soccer will ever be bridged. No sport is more popular among American under-15's yet average attendances at MLS games dropped from £75m) into an MLS youth de- English cup finals, bemoans

year, sadly below the 20,000 MLS officials had predicted at the start of the season. There are rays of hope on the horizon, however. ABC televi-

tickets for tomorrow's final at Washington's RFK Stadium are spectators will understand what is going on remains to be seen. sion will increase its coverage John Harkes, the former from one game to 12 next year. Sheffield Wednesday player, who has played in a couple of

17.416 in 1996 to 14.616 this velopment scheme All 56.000. American fans' failure to grasn the finer points of the game. "We're still educating the crowd sold out. Whether many of the in some ways," he said. "When you play at Wembley Stadium. you've got 80,000 people who

And they know it, Harkes might have added, without the

...meanwhile the nation's youngsters are learning to play the game the wrong way

Nike is pouring \$120m (about

Soccer is making great strides in the United States. But Motthew Gotword, who has been coaching in New York, believes that the Americans need to change their methods at youth level before they can make a realistic challenge to the game's world powers.

I have been a soccer coach in the New York area for the last three years coaching 5 to 16year-olds, and have witnessed first hand the sudden escalation of interest in the game among Football in the USA is be-

coming increasingly popular, and in many states is beginning to challenge more traditional American sports. Interest boomed after the success of the 1994 World Cup in America, where the national team exceeded all expectations. This mounting enthusiasm led to increased television coverage of the Premiership equivalent. Major League Soccer. The recent influx of foreign stars such as Italy's Roberto Donnadoni and Colombia's Carlos Valderrama has added glamour to the other players migrates in their

As interest mounts so does participation. Americans plough massive amounts of money. effort and leisure time into sport at all levels. As a result, the facilities in a country where es and parents, and their supspace is abundant are superb. They are world leaders in sport physiology and psychology, and naments or "fests" in the USA ally plays centre defence.

have the most advanced hi- attract many teams and betech equipment. Sport in school has always been a fundamental part of the curriculum, and has a high profile at college level where it can have a massive following. St. John's University men's soccer team in New York,

With such factors in their favour as well as a staggering population from which to choose their players, surely it is only a matter of sooner or later before the rest of the footballing world are trying to catch up with the United States. However, from what I have seen I would suggest the safe money would be on later rather than sooner.

for instance, attracts 40,000

supporters for home games.

There is nothing like starting early and in the USA children as young as five years of age are put into teams to play competitive games. Many are run by volunteer parents whose dedication is admirable, but who have never played the game. They have five-year-olds playing 9, 10 and 11-a-side matches. Children who don't know the

day of the week (and I know, I have asked them) are being told to play at left half-back (midfield). I have seen games where children stand stationary in their designated position for 20 minutes before the swarm of direction to wake them up. Two or three punts a game in the general direction of the opponent's goal is about standard for most of these children. The commitment from coachport is unbelievable. Weekend youth soccer matches and tourcome real family occasions. However, because so few of

the coaches have played the game, technique is frequently taught incorrectly: for example toe-punting the ball when shooting. It is all very well having a personalised training top, your own club hall, team water hottles etc. but not if you can't make a five-yard pass without cooping the ball into the air.

Unfortunately, it would

seem that for many of these coaches and the parents who watch their young offspring, winning is the be-all and endall. As the England coach, Glenn Hoddle, pointed out last week about football in England "We need to take the competitive edge from young players. coaches and parents, it is not win at all costs at that age". Hoddle also highlighted the need to play in games of less than 11-a-side on smaller pitches. These sentiments need to be sounded louder and clearer across the States. Once the problem has been pinpointed

the solutions will follow. At an American youth game the testosterone flying around on the sidelines is dangerous. Instructions bellowed to eightyear-olds such as "punt it" followed by roars of approval as a leg is blindly swung and the hall flies up field only to be punted back cannot be said to be creating an intelligent player. Yet this is seen by untutored Americans as a "good play". Teams actually have a player dubbed "big-foot". This is the child, usually the biggest, who can kick the ball the furthest, and who usu-

Statistics constantly churned out on television during MLS games add to this harder-thebetter view, and few young players that I encountered could truly hoast a good touch because they spend so little time with the ball. There are those that can juggle the ball, but in a game situation cannot read or truly understand the game.

On one occasion when I encouraged a 13-year-old defender to carry the ball forward. he looked surprised and asked can a defender go that far up field?" Again, this ignorance can be put down to inadequate TV coverage and analysis.

Many teams play the game with tactics more appropriate to an American Football or hasketball game. There is an inherent desire to get the ball forwards towards the other end of the field as quickly as possible. Even the ideas behind the 30-second rule of basketball and "no passing backwards over the half-way line" curb the notion of patience within a game. As a result, the idea of passing backwards in football is completely alien in many players right up to 16 years of age.

Defences can often be found standing in a line on the edge of their penalty area waiting for the ball to break through the midfield before springing into life. It is as though they are a "special team" waiting to fulfil their particular

Commitment and dedication are natural American traits but until football receives as much coverage as the more traditional sports it seems that soccer in the United States will never challenge as a national sport.



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المنا من الدمل

McGinlay wanted by Sunderland

John McGinlay, the Bolton land and Wales has been scup-Wanderers striker, is wanted by Sunderland to belp fire their promotion bid. Peter Reid, the Roker Park club's manager, was yesterday quoted a £750,000 fee and hopes to agree a compromise over the weekend.

Reid has also asked about Manchester City's Uwe Rösler, but found the fee prohibitive. Meanwhile, Bolton have taken Franz Carr on trial for a month but they are unlikely to go ahead with the signing of the Bulgarian midfielder Ilian Kiriakov, from Aberdeen.

Martin O'Neill's chances of becoming Northern Ireland manager increased when the Irish Football Association declared they would consider a part-time appointment in succession to Bryan Hamilton.

Speculation about the Leicester manager's possible appointment sent his club's shares plummeting on the first day of their Stock Market flotation. Shares instantly dropped 16p in value on the £1.10 opening trading price. "I would rather not make any comment about

the Northern Ireland situation at this stage because I don't know the ins and outs of what would be involved," O'Neill said. The IFA's president, Jim Boyce, said that they intended

to get the best man for the job, regardless of whether he was full or part-time. "I would like to think we can attract a top European coach with world experience - someone who has done it," he said.

England's bid to share the 2006 World Cup with Scotpered by Fifa. The world's governing body has confirmed they will not consider a bid from England that included venues outside the nation.

The Fifa spokesman, Keith Cooper, said: "The regulations for the World Cup state that it is organised by one single national football association, which is one country in football terms. You might ask why the 2002 World Cup is a joint venture between Japan and South Korea, but it was made clear at the time that it will be an exceptional and unique occasion."

The Portsmouth physiotherapist, Neil Sillett, and the Bradford manager, Chris Kamara, have been charged with misconduct by the Football Association following a mass brawl between the two sides last

week. Kamara is to appeal. The Sheffield United manageт, Nigel Spackman, has also been charged with misconduct for remarks he made to the referee following the game against QPR fast Saturday.

The transfer of the French striker Samassi Abou's from Cannes to West Ham has-run into trouble. "As far as we're concerned the deal's off, unless they resurrect it. They have until Monday to come back to us," said the Hammers' managing director, Peter Storrie.

Tranmere Rovers will make a renewed attempt to sign Derek Whyte from Middlesbrough next week after the proposed £200,000 move broke down over personal terms.



Snow storm: Chelsea's Frank Sinclair and Tromso's Steiner Nilsen clash in mid-air during the controversial Cup-Winners' Cup tie in Norway on Thursday night Photograph: Alisport

Gullit's jibe at Uefa

An angry Ruud Gullit yesterday accused Uefa of turning the Cup-Winners' Cup into a "Mickey Mouse" competition after Chelsea escaped from their second round first leg tie in Tromso, Norway, with a narrow 3-2 defeat played out in blizzard conditions.

"This isn't Mickey Mouse, it's a real competition," said the Cheisea manager. "I asked the president of the Norwegian federation what he felt, and he said that they would never have allowed the game to go ahead if it was a league match.

The referee didn't want to play but he had been told by Uefa that he could not postpone it, that it had to go ahead."

All is not well with McLeish

Alex McLeish has warned his players he wants a marked improvement from his Motherwell side when they take on Aberdeen today to avoid him "running the gauntlet" with the Scottish Premier League club's dispirited support.

The Well lost 4-1 at home to Hearts three weeks ago and last time out were humiliated 4-0 at Dundee United, McLeish called that display "below Junior League level," and hopes clearthe-air talks with his team this week prove to have been effective. "We have to do ourselves justice against Abendeen," the manager said. "I want a positive reaction from the players. If they don't do more tomorrow it is me who is going to run the gaunt-

let with the fans."

Seventh-placed Motherwell go into the match against the bottom club on a run of three successive defeats and will not be helped by the lengthy absence of Willie Falconer, who broke an ankle at Tannadice.

The league leaders, Rangers, may be without Sergio Porrini, the Italian midfielder who hurt an ankle in training, as they go to Tannadice aiming to preserve their advantage over Celtic, who are two points adrift. They play St Johnstone at Parkhead looking for a 10th successive victory over domestic opposition.

Kilmarnock will be without their goalkeeper Dragoje Levovic at home against Hibernian. He is away on international duty with Yugoslavia.

Impoverished City's stock falls in futures market

"City boos for Blair" screamed one of this week's headlines. Within hours, Franny Lee and Frank Clark were enduring a similar experience, and the resentment which gripped Maine Road after the defeat by Stoke could turn into a revolt if Manchester City take another beating at Queen's Park Rangers

As hundreds of disgruntled supporters gathered after the latest failure to call for Lee to resign the chairmanship, his manager of less than 10 months was assuring the media that he was not unduly pessimistic. There were, Clark reasoned, 35 games to turn things around. Given that City have won just two out of 11 to date, their stock in football's futures market hardly looks encouraging.

Almost 26,000 turned out for the Stoke match - on a night when 18 clubs played to their lowest gates of the season. City fans made it an article of faith not to stay in to watch Manchester United on television which merely reiterated their club's potential. But unless they start improving on a position of 21st in the First Division, below neighbouring Bury and Stockport, next season's derbies are more likely to be against

Macclesfield than United. At the time of his takeover from Peter Swales, Lee was hailed by one local paper as being ready to launch a spending spree to make Jack Walker's investment at Blackburn look like petty cash. That Clark's latest recruit, Mertas Sheleilah, cost the comparative peanuts of £500,000 is indicative of increasingly straitened circumstances rather than a bent for

bargains. The Georgian defender, recommended by Georgi Kinkladze, is set for his debut at Loftus Road, where City have won once in seven visits. Rangers, relegated with City

18 months ago, are also dis-covering that buying out an unpopular regime is no guarantee of instant success. Already competing for support with Chelsea, they now find another of their local rivals, quaint old Fulham, striving to reinvent themselves by lavishing unprecedented sums on new

Paul Peschisolido became the third and most credible capture by Mohamed Al Fayed's new chief operations officer, Kevin Keegan, and manager Ray Wilkins when he arrived from West Bromwich Albion for £1.1m vesterday.

As a Canadian of Italian parentage, who has Karren Brady for a wife and Eric Hall as his agent, the diminutive striker could also be said to be upholding Craven Cottage's nonconformist traditions. The first seven-figure signing in the English game's third grade, he goes straight in at home to Northampton today.

Elsewhere, there is an intriguing First Division basement struggle between Huddersfield and Portsmouth. The coaching acumen of Terry Yorath, while not quite enough to take Wales or the Lebanon to the World Cup finals, will be pitted against the influence of Terry Venables, who is on the verge of achieving precisely that with Australia but is having a less beneficial effect on Pompey

Main fixtures and pools check

Nationwide League First Division & Birminghem v Oxford ... 9 Bradford v Crews

Second Division Secona Division
18 Bristol R v Bladispoi
19 Burnley v Sourmino
20 Chesterfield v Wyco
21 Fulhern v Northempi
22 Gillinghern v Plymou
23 Grimsby v Watford
24 Luton v Shandord
24 Luton v Shandord

25 Milwell v Wigen 26 Presion v Wredner 27 Southend v Oktran 26 Walgell v Bristol Cit 9 York City v Cart Third Division

12 Exeter v Scurthorps 33 Hull v Brighton 34 L Orient v Colcheste 35 Lincoln v Derington 36 Mansfield v Barrit ... 37 Notes Co v Cambridge

Bell's Scottish League Premier Division 40 Cetic v St. Johnstone

First Division

47 RetrivSt g Albion. Second Division

8 Brechen v Fortar. Clyde v Clydebank... East Fife v inverness Cal.

Albion v Queenta Park Albo v East Stirling Arbroath v Montrosa ...

FA Carling Premiership Assend v Aston VIIIa (40) Bolton v Chelsee (80) First Division OFR withouthester City (10)

WEEKEND FIXTURE GUIDE

TODAY

GM VALIXHALL CONFERENCE: Dover v Woking: Gateshead v Tellord; Stevenage

working: caseshad v leadord, stevenage v hadnestord.

FA CHALLENGE CUP Fourth round qualitying: Altracham v Morecambe; Basingstoke v Braintree Tn; Billeneay Tn v Camberley Town; Blyth Spartane v Kiddermusser, Bognor Regis v Famborough; Bromsgrove v Rombord, Cheltenham v Suhon Urd; Erfield v Carshahon; Garsborough v Heister, Glounseter v Wishelder Hale. Demicros v Borenam woor, Strangoume v Herelon't Sough v Kingstonian; Sough vit V Kongatonian; Sough vit v North Fentity Lifet, St. Albars v Hendon; Stahtrafige v Solfhult Therena The Vacioury Th; Winstond Life v Perutitr; Yacvil v Hayes, ISTHMIAN LEAGUE Premiter Division: Santop's Sortiford v Purfleet; Bromley v Vesting; Hickin v Harmow Borough; Oxford City v Dutwich; Walton & Hereham v Aylesbury, First Division: Adensino Town v Berton Rovers; Chertey Town v Hamportor Grays Artiette v Thame Lifet, Leyton Pennant v Abingdon Town: Victing Vertiling v Berton Holling v Barthernsted Town v Lestherhead; Wichting v Barthernsted Town. Second Division: Bertong v Canwey Island; Bedford Town v Weaktstone; Cheshurt v Chalkint; St Patte; Edgware Town v Tooting & Micham; Egisam Town v Banstead Athlatic; Horsham v Hungerlord Town; Markow v Tibrury, Northwood v Withern Town; Windsow & Elon v Met. Police; Whenhoo Town, v Bracknell Town. wood v Withern Town; Windsor & Edon v Met Police; Whenhoe Town v Brackrell Town. Third Division: Aveley v Hernel Hernessead; Contenian Casuals v Southell: Croydon Athelic v Ford Utd; Epsont 8, Evell v Hertford Town; Harlow Town v Kingsbury Town; Horndruch v Packwel Health; Lewes v East Thurnock Utd; Wingste 8 Finchisy v Wars, Leutenan L. E. & B. Downter Divisions 8. Thurnock Utd; Wingata & Finchley v Wara, UNIBOND LEAGUE Premier Division: Alrector Town v Radchine Borough; Bathop Auditand v Leigh RMI; Chorley v Gutseley;
bancaster v Barther Bridge; Namine v Fricktey; Spernymoer v Accrington Stanley;
First Division: Ashton Utd v Congleton Rown,
Droylsden v Buston Farsley; Celtic v Witton
Albion; Fiston v Great Harwood Town; Metlock Town v Whitley Bey; Stocksbridge P s
v Nether field; Trathord v Bradford P A: Whitby Town v Belper Town; Workington v Eastwood Town; Worksop Town v Harrogets
Town.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE Premier Division DR MARTIENS LEAGUE Premier Divisions Attensions v Menthyr; Burton Abion v Cembridge City, Dorchester v Gresty Rovers; Forest Green v St. Leonards; Hestings v Rothwell Town: Tamworth v Crewidly Town. Mediand Obvisions Blaton Town v Bedworth Utit; Brackley Town v Shoshed Dynamo; Evestern Util v Corby Town; Raunds Town v RC Warwick; Redditch Utid v Paget Rungers; Stafford Rangers v Bladenat; Suton Coktiseld Town v Southern Division: Besidey v Dearford; Cowedon Town v Beldock Town; Erith & Belveders v Chelmstard City; Fisher Athletic London v Criemoster Town; Newport LO-W v Towbridge Town; Waterloovilla v Canderford Town; Waterloovilla v Canderford Town; Waterloovilla v Canderford Town; Waymouth A F C; Yate Town v Weston-Supe-Mare A F.C. Yate Town v Weston-Super-Mare
LPHLSPORT LINUTED COUNTRES LEAGUE
Reenler Division: Buckingharn v Boston;
Bogerhoe v Kempston; Desborough v
fourne; Holbesch v S.A. Corty; M. Blacksone v Potton; Spalching v Sr. Neots; Stamtord v Stottoid; WBorough v Long Buckby;
Wootton v Ford Sports; Yaxdey v N. Spender;
HIGHLAND LEAGUE; Clachneuddin v Edin
City; Cove Rangers v Buckle Thistle;
Fraserburgh v Fort William; Naim County v
Kett;, Rothes v Fornes Mechanics; Wick
Academy v Hundy.
Sammore; IRISH LEAGUE Premier Di-

Kettr, Flothes v Forms Mechanics. Was Academy v Hurth, SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE Premier Di-vision: Ards v Californille, Ballymena Crusaders, Glentoran v Glenavon; Omagh Town v Linfield: Portadown v Colerains First Division: Ballydare v Newry; Distillery v Li-matedy List; Dungarnon Swifts v Bangor, Larne v Carrick.

manach Lind: burgarmon Swifts v Bangor;
Lame v Carrick
FAI NATIONAL LEAGUE Premier Division:
Firn Harps v (CD (750); Kilkerny City v Derry City (730); Sigo Rovers v Cork City (730,
LEAGUE OF WALES; Bangor City v Carmarinen Town (210); Caremarion Town v Commara (20); Chrey v Casress (230); Fint Zeen v Barry Town (230); Hawartordwest v Holy (230); Nemdown v Porthamach (230); Frequeter Town v Careas Yinys Mon (230);
Frequeter Town v Careas Yinys Mon (230);
This v Etow Vale (230); Welstipcol v Aberystwyth (230);
90'TERLINK ExpRESS Mildland Affance:
Pelad Villa v Boldmans St Michaels; Pershore Town v Chasettowr, Rocaster v Bridgmorth Zown; Rushell Olympic v Kings Noron Town: Sandwell Borough v Wilenhall Town:
Stitual Town v Cadoury Utic, Seperhill v Halesown Farriers; Stration Town v Wednesfield: West Midands, Police v Bloxwich Town.

61, Cale Stitista, Vast Second round

FA CARLSBERG VASE Second round qualifying: Carleriown v First Tower Utd. FA UMBRO TROPHY First round quali-tying replay: Weston-Super-Mare v Harrow

whaten Newmented Town v Felicitows Port & Town; Sohem Town Plangers v Great Yarmouth Town; Stowmented Town v Bury Town; Sudbury Wanderers v Histon; Watton Utd v Tiptree Utd.

JEWSON SOUTH WESTERN LEAGUE.

JEWSOM SOUTH WESTERN LEAGUEBodnin Town v Torpoint Ahlietic, Holsworthy v Tavisnock, Leuroeston v Liskgerd Athletic, Millincoli v Feltmush Town: Saltesh Utd
v Truro City; St Blezsy v Penzance.
JEWSOM WESSEX LEAGUE First Division: Atc Newbury v Aerostructures; BAT v Ryde
Sports: Bernerton Heetin Hert v Portemouth
R.N.; Christchurch v Eastleigh; Downston v
Brodsenhurst: Thetchem Town v Romsey
Town; Whitchurch Lid v East Cowes; Vics
Wimbome Town v Atc Lymington.
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE
Presider Division: Amold Rown v Ossett Albion; Brigg Town v Pontefract Cols; Curzon
Ashton v Selby Town; Eccleshill Lid v Livareadge; Glasshoughton Welfare v Denaby
areadge; Glasshoughton Welfare v Denaby

ensedge, Glasshoughton Welfare v Denaby Unitsd: Hallam v Hudoreli Rown; Hatfield Main v Thaddey; Malitoy MW. v Armthorpe Welfare; Plotoring Town v Sheffield. SCREWFO. OFRECT LEAGUE Premier Duteling: Benneteria Turn v Mangratifield. SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Divisions Barnsspie Town v Mangotsfield Unit Bideford v Bristol Menor Farm; Bris-lington v Bridgewater Town; Chard Town v Caine Town; Keynsharr Town v Bunton Town; Odd Down v Bactoneil Unit Toring-ton v Paulon Rovers, Westbury Unit v Brinds United States of Charles of Charles United States (Charles of Charles Heath v Langrey Sports; Rechill v Shinews-ter Association.

ter Association.

WINISTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE First Division: Confishism v Sheppey Ltd; Cray Warnderers v Faverstern Town; Crockenhall v
Whitistable Town; Deal Town v Greenwich
Borough; Shith Town v Turchridge Wells; Rolestone Invicta v Chetham Town; Herne Bay
y Backenham Town; Lordswood v Hythe Utd;
Swenley Flamees v Carterbury Chy;
Thamsemed Town v Saide Green; V C D
Athletic v Rumagate.

Swarrey Furness V Carasoury City;
Thamsensed Town v Slade Green; V C D
Athletic v Ramageta.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES First Division:
Arsenel v Southend Utd (110); Cembridge
Utd v Milwall (110); Christon Ath v Ipswich
(10); Filmen v Leyton Orient (10); Norwich
(10); Filmen v Leyton Orient (10); Norwich
(10); Waltord v Portsmouth (100); West
Harm v Crystel Palece (100).

FA YOUTH CUP Third Round Qualitying
Replay: Athlygion Town V Orient City.
FA PREMIER YOUTH LEASUE: Chelsee U-18 v Southempton U-18 (100); Covertry U-18 v Semiley U-18 (100); Crystel Palace U-18

v Ansend U-18 (110); Cery U-18 v Windledon
U-18 (110); Cunderfaul U-18 v Nottm
Forcet U-18 (110); CPF U-18 v Windledon
U-18 (110); Sunderfaul U-18 v Mest Ham U-18

(110); Tottenham U-18 v West Ham U-18

(110);

Rugby Union

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Rugby Union
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ALLIED DUNBLAR Premierahip One: Harrisquirs v Sais; Leisester v Bath (2.5). Premierahip Two: Coversty v Waterfeld; Pytos v Blockinsett; Lindon Scottish v Bedford; Moseley v Orrof; Waterloo v Eoster; West Hartlepool v Rotherham.

JEWSON NATIONAL LEAGUE One: Liverpool St Helens v Harrogate: Lychey v Wharfelale, Newbury v Rosslyn Park; Otley v Leeds; Reading v Nottingham; Rugby v Morley; Whorester v London Welsh. Two North: Aspatria v Persion Grasshoppers; Birmhogham/Soffull v Winnington Park; Kendal v Stourbridge; Manchester v Sedgley Park; Sandal v Nuneaton; Sheffeld v Lichfield; Welsall v Hinckley. Two South: Barking v Bridgwater. Camberley v West-ort-Super-Mere; Catton v North Welsham; Hesent v Redmith; Met Police v Hentey; Pymouth v Enter: Teberd v Cheltenham.
WFLSH NATIONAL LEAGUE Presider Division: Cardiff v Eloby Velo (2.5); Llandi v Swarsses (80); Nesth v Bridgerd (2.0); Newport v Pontrypridd (2.0). First Division: Aberavon v South Welse Police (2.0); Mesting v Pontrypridd (2.0); Mesting v Pontrypridd (2.0); Mesting v Pontrypridd (2.0); Will Cardiff Inst) v Caerphilly (2.0).

SRU LEAGUE ThroPhy Group A: Edinburgh Acadis v Hawick; Heriotts FP v Gleegow Hawkes; Kirkceldy v Gais; Meliose v String County; W Kelso; Dunder I SFP v Klymamock; Jed-Forest v Pedies; Wilscandins v Stewerts Mel FP; Gordonisms v Glenrotness Group D: Hilmadd Jordanhill v Glesgow Southern; Sellork v Ayt.
CLUB MATCHES: Grangemouth v Stewaring.

Hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE Premier: Berlord
Tigns v Cannock (20); Beeston v Doncester
(130); Centerbury v Old Loughtonians (20);
East Grinstnad v Teddington (20); Guidford
v Resding (20); Hounston v Sourigate (130). v Fleading (120); Hourston v Souangas (20); ESL SOUTH Premiser: Chichester v Fan-sm; Esstade v Herne Bay; High Wycombe v Richmond; Old Whitghtens A Anchorans; Purley v Maiderinsad; Ramgarha v City of Portsmouth; Trojans v Bournemouth; Tur-bridge Wells v Winchester; Wimbledon v Beckerham; Woking v Gore Court.

ADNAMS EAST Pramier: Clacton v Crostys; Colchester v Ipswich; Luton Town v Cambridge City; Paterborough Town v Bishops Stortford; Sudbury v Cambridge

WEST OF ENGLAND & SOUTH WALES

Speedway

Baskerbali

BENSON AND HEDGES PLATE Semi-fi-nata: Telford Tigers v Peterborough Pirates (730); Palsky Pirates v Stough Jets (70). SUPERLEAGUE: Ayr Scottish Eagles v Bes-ingstoke Bloon (630); Notingham Pan-thers v Newcastle Cobras (70).

Basketball PASTRELLEAGUE: Chesier Jets v New-castle Engles (5:30); adicles Greater London Leopards v Exide London Towers (6:30). UNI-BALL TROPHY Manchester Glants v Sheffeld Sharles (6:30).

ice hockey BENSON AND HEDGES PLATE Semi-di-nate: Peterborough Pirates v Tellord Tigers p.c.; SUPERLEAGUE: Sheffeld Steelers v Bas-ingstoke Bison (620); Bradwelf Bees v Men-chester Storm (60); Carditi Devils v Newcastle Cobras (60).

WEST OF ENGLAND & SOUTH WALES Premier: Bristol University of Buriton Male; Cheltanham v Exister University; Clevedon (1988): Bucch; Sajarske v Wester (1980): Bucch; Sajarske v House (1980): Bucch; Marthurpton Science (1980): Bucch; North Notts.
NORTH Premier: Ben Rhydding v Durham University; Chester v Formby, Herrogate v Wiger; Neston v Southport; North v Swalwel; Timparley v Shetfield Bankers.

CRAVEN SHELD semi-final, second leg-Eastbourne v Kings Lynn (70); Swindon (40) v Coventry (50).

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Leicester Riders v Wasterd Royals (730). UNI-BALL TROPHY: Derby Storm v Man-chester Grants (730); Paugeot Bullets Birm-ingham v Converse Crystal Palace (730); IT LLE Worthing Bears v Thames Valley

Other sports BOOING: British and Commonwealth ben-ternweight triles: F Ampolo (London) v P Lloyd (Elesmere Port, Commonwealth champlon) (Deesids Leisure Centre, Chester). DARTS: World Pairs Championship (Bogn-

or Regis). SNOOKER: Bournemouth Grand Prix (Boumernouth), TEMNIS: Maureen Connolly Trophy: GB woman's U-21 v USA women's U-21 (Man-chester); Girobank Tour event (Taunton).

TOMORROW

Footbal! LEAGUE OF WALES: Connah's Quay v in-ter Cable-Tel (2.30). FAI NATIONAL LEAGUE Premier Division: Bohemiens y Shelbourne (3.55).

Rugby Union
TOUR MATCH: Redruth Presidents 1 v Ton-TOUR MATCH: Redruth Presidents I v Ton-ga (230). SRU INTER DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP: Editburgh v Caledonia (30) (at Invertient). ALLIED DUNBAR Premierating One: Bris-tol v Northampton (30); London high v Waspa (30); Newcastle v Richmond (30); Saracane v Gioucester (30).

Hockey Hockey
NATIONAL LEAGUE Premier: Cannock v
Beeston (230); Donoaster v Berford Tigers
(20); Old Loughtonians v Guildhord (130);
Heading v Cartierbury (20); Southgate v East
Grisslead (20); Teddington v Houristow (230);
Flast Ditrision: Brominy v St Albans (10);
Gloucester City v Finchrands (130); Hampsteed & Westminater v Chelmstord (1230);
Heriston Magnies v Choland Hawke (20); Harriston Magnies v Choland Hawke (20); Itvaria v Brooklands (20); Isca v Hull (10);
Lowes v Indian Gymidiana (130); Loughborough Students v Studenta (230);
Steffield v Bournville (230); Stoupport v Oxford University (230); Warrington v Surbiton
(130).

Other sports DARTS: World Pairs Championship (Bogn-or Regis). SNOOKER: Bournemouth Grand Prix





Who is the greatest footballer of all time? Now you can help us choose. Because England, the home of the world's greatest sport, is about to become the permanent venue for the International Football Hall Of Fame, When selecting your play- lection, all you have to do er codes. At the end of the lems voting, call our backed by the Independent and the Professional Footballers' Association. And we need you to decide which of the game's heroes should be first to be inducted.

Over the next few weeks with your help. we will pick the best 25 of all time to be inaugurated in November in the official Hall Of Fame. To qualify, your pick must have played for his country and have retired for three years.

So get voting now. What we need you to do is nominate up to four players for election to the Hall Of Fame. Simply follow the instructions on the right.

Internet: You can also cast your vote on the Internet at www.sporting-life.com. This is how it all works.

 A player of any nationality can be elected. He must have been retired for three years and have gained a full cap. Anyone can make and have gained a full cap. Anyone can make up to four nominations.

• A nomination must be sent to the 300 Joseph Anomio Carbella 301 Anomio Carbella 304 Anomio Carbella

International Football Hall Of Fame on an Official Voting Form, by telephone to a registered number, or via the Internet.

• Voting ends on Sunday November 9, 1997.

The five players with most nominations will San San Mark S

automatically be elected.

• A Selection Committee made up of seven retired players from different countries, and Romanda Services with a chairman from the PFA, will draw up a short list of 60 players from those who are Ricard Zamora receive most votes. This list is given to a panror's Harry Harris. Each will choose a top

20. The 20 players who receive most votes

403 Luigi Alemand

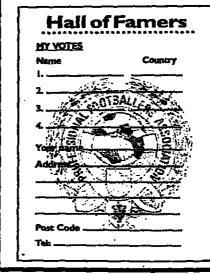
404 Luigi Alemand

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YOUR VOTE COUNTS make sure you use it!



Who is the greatest?

from all the votes received then call 0930 565 996.

The Hall of Fame. In the table below, we test to determine what don E3 3NZ. Postal en-minute at all times who could all be in con- You will then be directed November 8.

TEAM

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CODE PLAYER

406: Paul Braitine
436: Terry Butcher
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435: Camacho
435: Jack Charton

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1995. Jack Charmon
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votes ONLY. Remember maximum. Select up to name. your votes count, as the four players, noting down VOTE NOW on: 0930 land number is 1550 123

the left and send it to: The

ers for the International is select your choice of up call, you will be asked to helpline: 0990 800 283. Hall of Fame, you have to four players. If you leave your name and ad- You cannot register your the chance to make wish you may select only dress. Your votes will be vote on this line. Vote FOUR votes and four one, but FOUR is the registered against your lines close on November 9, 1997. Republic of Ire-

Ireland cost 58p per

tention. To make your se- to enter your chosen play- If you experience prob- minute include VAT.

top five players overall their code numbers and 565 996 or use the form on 302 (Tone phones only). will automatically go into First of all, you will be Independent. Hall of Calls should last no more asked to carry out a quick Fame, PO Box 6927, Lon- than two mins. 50p per have listed 250 players type of phone you have. tries must be received by Calls from Republic of

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307 Jeff Assie
308 Session
308 George Best
308 Roberto Bettega
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308 Steve Bloomer
309 Jeff Assie
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Rover returning to Dublin to with an all-round education

leff Kenna returned to Ireland yesterday as the Republic began preparing for Wednesday's World Cup play-off first leg against Belgium at Lansdowne Road. The Blackburn Rovers defender freely admits he is not the most 'flamboyant' of players but few have been as involved in Mick McCarthy's rebuilding.

Before flying back to his Dublin birthplace to prepare for the big game he talked about Ireland and the new regime at Ewood Park.

Had I known I would never have asked the question, but I'd arrived at Blackburn Rovers' Brockhall training complex after Jeff Kenna and I did not know.

Our interview was winding down and we were discussing more general topics than Wednesday's World Cup playoff and the Rovers' revival under Roy Hodgson. We moved on to the belief among some managers than it is becoming increasingly hard to motivate players because they are so well paid. "There's this image," I said, in all innocence, "of footballers driving around in Porsches and all that." Kenna never flickered as he defended the modern footballer, invoking personal ambition and pride of achievement as his leading witnesses.

A few minutes later we finished the interview and Kenna, pausing to disrupt a pool match on Brockhall's blue baize tables between Tim Flowers and Chris Coleman, escorted the photographer and myself back to the car park. After Kenna left us to prepare for training the photographer turned and said: "Great question about the Porsche - by the way, that's his car." I followed fus gleaming, metallic, midnightblue Porsche.

Honestly Jeff, I wasn't think- sort of games." ing of you. Such is Kenna's low profile, as a footballer and a personality, it was a surprise to find him driving a Porsche. As a footballer he is, in his own description, "not flamboyant, just a lowly full-back who does his job". As a man he is married and appears, on brief acquaintance, to be polite and pleasant, someone who does not mention an agent when you request an inthat Rovers train in the after- left side of three centre-backs,

profession. "It's like a proper job with proper hours now," he said. If not quite Volvo man he is a Premiership footballer after all - he appears more Rover, perhaps Land Rover man.

Today he is not driving any-Mick McCarthy's World Cup of Wednesday's Dublin date with Belgium.

Blackburn defender was in at the to him to play for us." end of Jack Charlton's reign, his mix of flexibility, ball-playing and industriousness typifies the new Ireland under McCarthy. Only Alan McLoughlin has played more football in McCarthy's 19 games in charge - a statistic Kenna greeted with surprise and enthusiasm.

The first six of his 20 caps vere won under Chariton. "He was great even if he didn't know my name at first - he just called me 'yer man'. Everybody knew their job with him. there were no shades of grey and you knew what to do in certain situations - he told you so."

Kenna's last match under Charlton was the Euro '96 play-

BY GLENN MOORE

off with the Dutch at Anfield which Ireland lost 2-0. "I imagine Wednesday will be similar," Kenna said. "It is like a cup-tie over two legs and the atmosphere will be electric in Dublin. It means a lot to the fans, they've got a taste for travelling to these competitions now and they love it. France isn't too far to go and they'll have been putting a bit aside, stopped having that extra pint in the pub.

The Dutch game was really awe-inspiring, to be involved in a game of that magnitude so in my international career was fantastic. Being a foot- about the place, we began well baller is all about playing those and are trying to maintain it. A

Though a right-back by choice, Kenna has played all over for the Republic. With Denis Irwin, Gary Kelly, Steve Staunton, Kenny Cunningham, Terry Phelan and Curtis Fleming providing full-back competition, his versatility has come in handy.

"It can be a double-edged sword but, given the competition it has probably been a benefit," he said. "When Mick terview and who seems pleased first took over I played on the

noon as well in the morning un- then it was left wing-back, right der Hodgson as it legitimises his wing-back and midfield. He was probably trying to find a position for me. I'm now predominantly a right-back, but it was a good education. You get to appreciate different positions and develop your game."

"He's been terrific for us," thing, just hitching a ride on McCarthy said. "He played in midfield for Jack and for me bandwagon which is picking up and elsewhere. He'd go up a nice head of steam in advance front or play in the nets if you asked him, he's that sort of lad, very accommodating. He's giv-Though the 27-year-old en a lot to us and it means a lot

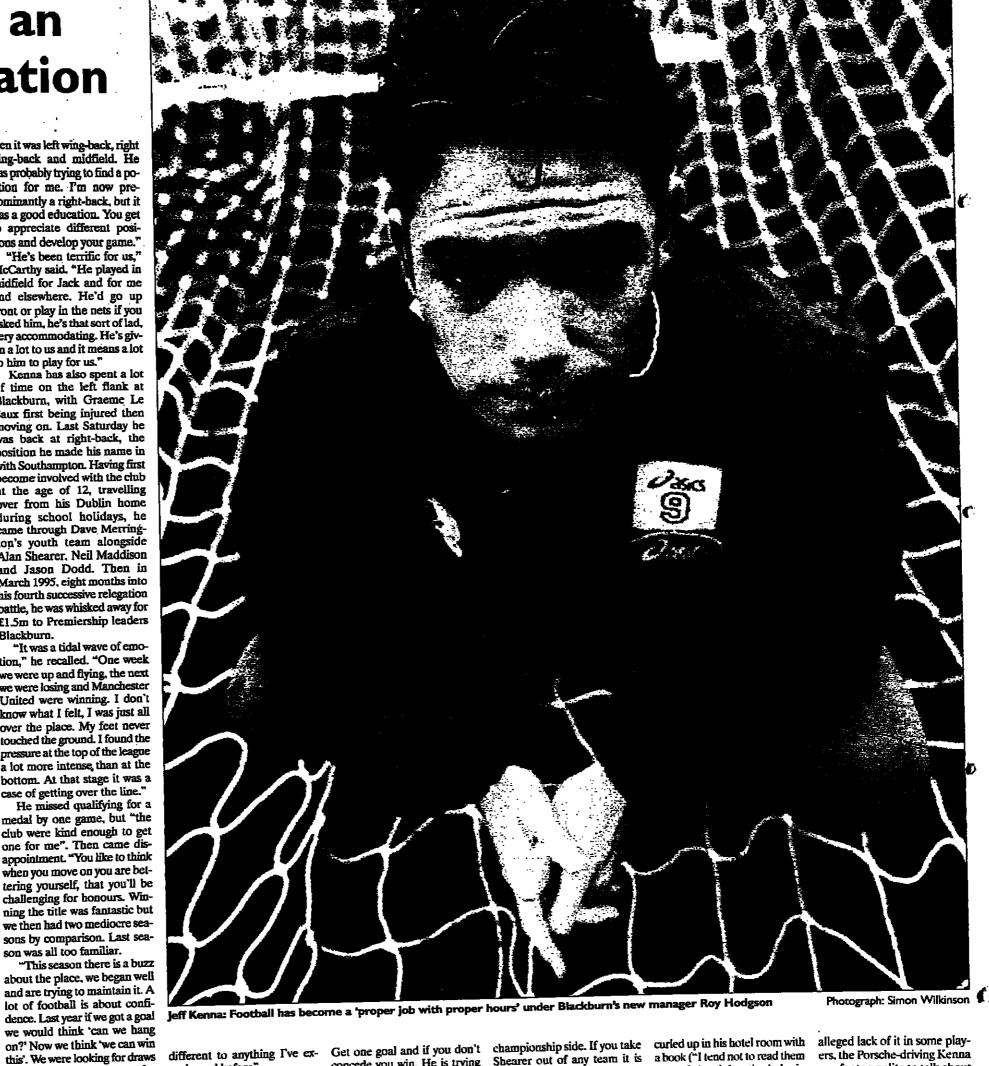
> Kenna has also spent a lot of time on the left flank at Blackburn, with Graeme Le Saux first being injured then moving on. Last Saturday he was back at right-back, the position he made his name in with Southampton. Having first become involved with the club at the age of 12, travelling over from his Dublin home during school holidays, he came through Dave Merrington's youth team alongside Alan Shearer, Neil Maddison and Jason Dodd. Then in March 1995, eight months into his fourth successive relegation battle, he was whisked away for £1.5m to Premiership leaders

Blackburn. "It was a tidal wave of emotion," he recalled. "One week we were up and flying, the next we were losing and Manchester United were winning. I don't know what I felt, I was just all over the place. My feet never touched the ground. I found the pressure at the top of the league a lot more intense than at the bottom. At that stage it was a case of getting over the line." He missed qualifying for a

medal by one game, but "the club were kind enough to get one for me". Then came disappointment. "You like to think when you move on you are bettering yourself, that you'll be challenging for honours. Winning the title was fantastic but we then had two mediocre seasons by comparison. Last season was all too familiar.

"This season there is a buzz we would think 'can we hang on?' Now we think 'we can win this'. We were looking for draws last year, now we go out for

Since the squad, said Kenna, is "more or less the same as last year" the difference would appear to be the new manager, Roy Hodgson. Kenna has played under nine managers so it is quite significant when he



perienced before". This is partly practical, the pasta diet and the Italian fitness coach with the 30-minute warmups and 20-minute warmdowns, and partly mental. "He has that Italian mentality, you don't have to win games four or five-nil. You don't get extra says of the latest "he is totally points for winning by four goals.

concede you win. He is trying to instill that in the team."

This may sound boring to watch, but Kenna adds: "We are also trying to play through midfield more now, instead of getting it up to the front men and playing from there. It's still classic 4.4-2 but we try to pass more. "We're not too far off the

bound to be a big loss, but Sut- around the club - the lads rip ty's [Chris Sutton] up there now. He's got to take on his

player in his own right." While his Blackburn teammates are at Newcastle today Kenna will be in Kildare, training with his Irish colleagues, or

the last chapter out") and following the scores.

Then it is Dublin on mantle and become a great Wednesday, a chance to set Ireland's new generation on the road to France and to reflect on his own progress. When we

Shearer out of any team it is a book ("I tend not to read them ers, the Porsche-driving Kenna was far too polite to talk about others but said of himself: "I've worked very hard to get in this position, to get the rewards, and I want to keep the standard up. You can't afford to let yourself go, someone else might get your jersey and I've still got a discussed commitment, and the lot to achieve."

4,

Boom time for the game's boot-room God squad

Chris Evans was surely clubs, even if the majority of stretching the point to claim, them are, er, disciples of the as he did last week in his new game themselves. Virgin Radio breakfast show, that football is the new religion -on the basis that most games are now played on Sky, that Southampton are called the Saints, that Newcastle play in the colours of a nun's habit and that West Ham's midfield is bossed (intermittently) by

To stretch it further he might have added that Stockfor Carlisle last season.

But Evans was being flippant. In fact, the link between football and religion stems mainly from their common vernacular - fans worship, while managers pray for a re- United. But Boyers actually has sult and hope someone up there is smiling on them.

However, the fact remains that more people watch Sky's of the registered charity Score ers became Watford's chaplain Sunday football offering than make an offering themselves in church on a Sunday - and ment), an organisation which that's despite Sky only being matches dergymen to clubs available to just over a quar- where their role is to offer ter of the population.

pleases the 55 chaplains affiliated to Football League

The Rev Gary Piper, for example, has followed Fulham fan since boyhood; it was a proverbial dream come true when he became the club's chaplain seven years ago. He still wants them to win as much as the next fan, but for reasons that are now more professional than personal.

West Ham's chaplain, the Rev Elwin Cockett, is a West port's attack is led by an An- Ham season ticket holder and gell (Brett), that a Canon a familiar sight riding around once sponsored the Football the East End on his claret Hon-League, and that an Archdea- da 650cc, while the Rev Nigel con (Owen) was ever-present Sands is in his 24th year as Crystal Palace's chaplain and has written seven club histories.

The Rev John Boyers, meanwhile, is a Grimsby Town fan at heart, but admits to having a soft spot for Manchester an excuse for this allegiance since he's the chaplain at Old Trafford, as well as being head (Sports Chaplaincy Offering Resources And Encourage- just three.). "spiritual input, to listen and It can't be a statistic that help the people connected

THE CLERGY AT CLUBS imagine clergymen spreading the word to players whose extra-curricular activities more usually involve cues than pews, club chaplains are becoming increasingly commonplace. (Don Revie was the first manager to appoint a chaplain at Leeds in the 1960s; when Boyin the 1970s they numbered

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Piper, who writes a column in Fulham's programme on explayers entitled "Missing Flock", claims that "players are still human beings with with the clubs when needed". spiritual dimensions who are Hard though it may be to aware of their vulnerability".

the sidelines through injury.

But don't imagine that chaplains mingle with players piest (or not so happiest) and fans clad in their Sunday best, bible in one hand and collection box in the other. Their work is as unseen but as committed off the pitch as, say, one) and it's already caught on David Batty's is on it, which, in Europe. When Ajax moved according to the QPR chaplain, Robert de Berry, is vital.

He says being at the fringe is "a blessing, since there are the city's cemetery where creenough egos that need polishing already. In many cases you're dealing with quite limited people elevated to this extraordinary status. Part of my challenge is to inject a little thoughtfulness into their lives". Such a philosophy must be working if even Andy Cole ad-

mits that reading the Bible helped him at United. Generally, a club chaplain's daily tasks might range from counselling an insecure YTS

ceased fan's ashes on the pitch. fans is the ultimate act of worship - getting married on the pitch - is still illegal (by law you must have a roof over your head when you tie the knot). But maybe the "death do us part"

Part of his remit is to act as a bit is inappropriate to football. "shoulder to cry on - although anyway. At Millwall, a Garden they might not like that ter- of Remembrance caters for minology" - to players left on the increasing number of fans preferring their ashes to be scattered at the site of their hapmemories rather than next to

their nearest and dearest. This is a new spin on Bill Shankly's quote (you know the to their new Amsterdam Arcna they donated turf from the old De Meer stadium to mators created a miniature pitch for fans' ashes, complete

with the original dugout. In Germany, fans can now be buried in coffins designed in their club's colours. It can't be long before Premier League chairmen catch on to such a commercial opportunity.

But the biggest link English football has with things theological remains those clubs who started life as church teams, among them Fulham youngster to scattering a de- (St Andrew's), Everton (St Domingo), Southampton (St However, what to some Mary's) and Wolves (St

Luke's Blakenhall). Fulham seem to have had their prayers answered (albeit by Mohamed Al Fayed). How the rest could do with some divine intervention.

FAN'S EYE VIEW BY DAVID RIVERS NO 229 TELETEXT

Never mind "true supporters" noises. You have to be mer- punished. I had after all been lording it over their couch- cenary. My 11-year-old son successfully helping the lads potato rivals, what about who treats any sporting oc- to keep a clean sheet through those of us who would go to casion with grave suspicion sheer willpower. I decided to

other side of the country? Mysteriously, my family refuse to enter into negotiations regarding the perfectly plausible ruse of disappearing every Saturday to make a 400-mile round trip to the leafy lanes of Hertfordshire to watch Watford.

For us, it is Teletext or nothing. In my case, "nothing" could be substituted with an afternoon at Elland Road, or noon. York City, but one can't just go changing allegiance at the drop of a hat. No. on Saturday afternoons, I am with the Hornets in spirit, staring at a blue television screen, chanting various mantras ("come

to appear. It is not easy to produce the right conditions for such a soiritual experience. One has to fight off various unwelcome spirits, which invade in the form of family members seemingly determined to spoil

one's afternoon. Notoriously non-sporting, they look with disdain at the screen and make groaning lack of dedication had been speechless.

watch our favourite team, but wafts a new video under my

have been forced to live on the There are tears in the kitchen, ("Dad won't let me kangaroo court follows. I am found guilty, but my earnest plea in defence, ("they'll go top if they win this. It's a milekitchen floor as soon as it's execution. If only Warford's

abandon the Teletext in re- sounded, if not Yorkshire sponse to my partner's urgent definitely not Italian either. cry from the kitchen, Expecting a nasty cut from the tin-opener at the very least, I was hardly nullified to find on you 'orns"), willing a goal the object of the drama was a bird she had spied in the

was as watertight that after-

garden, "I think its a Blackcap," she hissed. "Keep still." I later discovered it was at that precise moment (the 72nd minute) that York City scored against us. I will always attribute that carelessly con-

rethink my plan to join the RSPB.

Worse, my spot of ornithology had cost me not watch it"). The inevitable only my seat but the channel had been changed, with the teenager holding the handset in a rather unnecessarily covetous manner. I was allowed stone. Yes I'll mop the a peek at the score... we were losing to a goal scored finished") carns me a stay of by someone called Tolson. "It's a foreign visitor," my

wife shouted from the kitchen. At least she was Once I was forced to wrong on that point. Tolson On Teletext, spectating is

much, much harder. In your mind there are 11 heroes out there strutting their stuff. You imagine them all but overrunning the opposition in front of a purring crowd.

The only problem is, its now 3.30 and they have not scored. Is Ceefax guilty of not keeping up with the play?

ITV has the same score. I decide they're more likely to score on BBC's Ceefax and ceded goal to the fact I had resume page 307. They have abandoned the cause, and my not. York City have. You are

Soft line by the imperial old boys' club

The Commonwealth summit opened yesterday with fanfares and triumphal speeches and boasts about its modernity. But Steve Crowshow in Edinburgh found the organisation is still reluctant to confront member-states which breach its own code on human rights.

Chief Emeka Anyaoku, secretary-general of the Commonwealth, called for the outcome of the summit to be one of "confidence and hope", and for "advancement in conditions of freedom, peace and harmony".

Officials confirmed that, although the Queen will keep her post as symbolic head of the Commonwealth, Prince Charles or his son William will not necessarily inherit the job. Sir Humphrey Maud, deputy secretary-general of the Commonwealth, emphasised that there is no constitutional bar to change. "A rotating head, a British head, a non-British head, no head at all - you fill in the blanks".

Mr Anyaoku talked of the Queen, who for the first time spoke at a summit opening, as "the steadying hand which has helped the Commonwealth through some particularly testing times". No successor would be perceived in the same way.

Nigeria, indignant at being criticised for its record on human rights, has dangled the ch threat in recent days that it might leave the Commonwealth. As one commentator noted: "They've adapted Groucho Marx. The line seems to be: 'I will resign from any club that hasn't got the guts to throw me out'." It was unclear whether the threat to walk out diplomats in Nigeria yesteralled at the last previous day.

has met for the past two years at that," he said.

Queen@show.

sage to the Commonwealth leaders.

New Britain, New Fun. That was the host government's mes-

presidents and prime ministers were treated to a video show

entitled "A Young Country" (to be precise: "www.a young

country@britain.gov".) This glossy corporate video provid-

ed a new look for the new millennium. Out went biscuit tin

images of thatched cottages and Changing of the Guard. In

Tony Blair said: "As you have just seen, this is a time of

renewal and redefinition - for Britain and, I believe, for the

Commonwealth." He insisted: "The Britain of the élite is

line. In a text authorised by Downing Street, she, too, re-

ferred to the video. "When we arrived, we saw some film

which I hope explained why we were so keen to host this

to the souped-up version of the national anthem, which sound-

meeting here in the United Kingdom," she said.

ed as though it had been produced by synthesiser.

The Queen also declared her support for the New Britain

Yet she looked vaguely disconcerted when listening

came modern graphics and spinning compact discs.

As the summit opened, the Queen and the assembled

failed to call for Nigeria's expulsion, despite a resolution at the last Commonwealth summit that expulsion would follow unless there was "demonstrable progress" towards democracy.

The Commonwealth has not even signed up for the limited package of sanctions that the European Union agreed last year, including visa restrictions for members of the government and a ban on arms sales. Theoretically, an oil embargo remains a possibility, somewhere down the line. But past experience suggests the Commonwealth would shy away from this "robust set of sanctions" like a bolting horse.

Nigerian rights activists were furious at what they saw as a collective cop-out. A joint statement talked of "emasculated principles" and complained: "The Commonwealth has told the whole world, in unmistakable terms, that absolutely no value is to be placed on its word". Signatories of the opponents of the regime - including the Nobel prize-winning writer Wole Soyinka, and Ken Wiwa, son of the executed activist Ken Saro-Wiwa - said: "The Commonwealth can only be relevant to the citizens of its member-nations if it puts their interest before that of undemocratic and authoritarian

structures of power." As is traditional, none of these arguments could be heard on the stage of the summit itself, where all was sweetness and light. Government leaders were keen to play down all areas of disagreement. The Indian Prime Minister, IK Gujral, insisted there were no problems between Britain and India, despite the problems of the recent royal tour and the offence caused by Foreign Secretary Robin Cook's comments on Kashmir

The Prime Minister's only criticism of Mr Cook was was mere bluff. A summons for oblique and he insisted there were no hard feelings about Mr day, at which it was rumoured Cook's comments, or about that it would announce a walk- comments by the Duke of Edmoment, just as a similar sum- massacre at Amritsar. "We've mons had been cancelled the learned to take things in our stride. India's a large country, The ministerial group which and very tolerant. Let's leave it



Anyaoku, wife of the Commonwealth Secretary-General, with a pipe band during a visit to a 'family festival' on the first day of the heads-of-govern meeting in Edinburgh.

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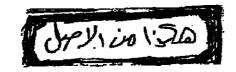
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Villeneuve confident he has power to take pole

There were certainly no clues as to the outcome of Sunday's much-anticipated climax to the Formula One championship in practice at jerez yesterday.

But as David Tremayne reports from Spain, it was the drivers using Bridgestone tyres who set the early pace.

Bridgestone's runners threw a spanner into the works of the carefully orchestrated Schumacher v Villeneuve shootout here vesterday, as Olivier Panis. Damon Hill and Rubens Barrichello took three of the top four placings after initial practice.

It was a promising showing by the Japanese tyre manufacturer, which hopes to end its first season in the upper echelon of the sport by securing the maiden victory that eluded Hill in Hungary in August.

But Michael Schumacher, who was only ninth fastest for Ferrari, was not perturbed, for Friday's practice times traditionally mean little. Many drivers use the day simply to set up their car for qualifying on Saturday, or often for the race it-

"That's exactly what we concentrated on today," Schumacher said. "The car generally feels good in race trim, so I am quite happy. Today's position really means nothing as I used only one set of tyres, while the other front-runners either used new tyres or went downforce. out late when there was rubber

Jacques Villeneuve finished the day third, despite going off the track at one stage during the morning. "I feel very good with how the sessions have gone today," the Canadian said. "Usually we have not been so quick during the Friday practices, but here in Jerez our homework has come together well. It is very important to be at the front of the starting grid on this circuit, because the tyres are likely to go off quickly. Also since it's a very difficult circuit on which to overtake.*

Schumacher holds a onepoint lead over Villeneuve, which means that whichever of them wins the race will take the championship. Ferrari may go to the line tomorrow running a new differential and revised dampers, following further test work undertaken since Schumacher's victory in Japan. where Villeneuve raced under appeal against his one-race ban for yet another infringement of the yellow flag rule.

"We gained a couple of tenths at our test track, Fiorauo," Schumacher said, "which was a surprise because all we were expecting was a better feel to the car and maybe a better balance. Overall, we have seen more improvement in the last three races than we thought we could expect."

Enough to push him back into the lead which he had lost to Villeneuve in the recent Luxembourg Grand Prix. But part of Ferrari's recent improvement is also believed to have come from a controversial front wing which droops at high speed, creating greater eligible for this crucial race.

Eyes on the prize: Michael Schumacher prepares himself and his Ferrari for victory, and the world drivers' championship, tomorrow in Jerez, Spain

Photograph: Reuter

the wing is too flexible, and asked for a ruling on its legality. But policing the rules concerning rigid aerodynamic components is difficult and although the matter is under investigation, the wing remains

mains confident that he can rethe trend and that sport's governing body, that Schumacher's luck is about to has been for the

all about qualifying," he said. "I'm sure it will be a straight fight between Michael and L but I hope it's not going to be a case of Michael taking me off, like we have seen in the past. To be honest, I think Michael's had all the luck he's going to have this Villeneuve, meanwhile, re-

year. And I think he knows it.

track because of the combination of different corners. There are a few tight corners here which will not be our cup of tea, but there are also a lot of highspeed corners, which our car

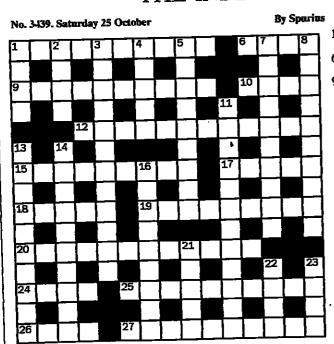
Panis, however, is confident that he can continue to push his "Our car is very strong, as it Prost-Mugen-Honda to the good feeling with

run out. "This weekend will be It should be pretty good on this the car from the beginning," he but the indications are that said. "It looks as if Bridgestone is going to be a precious ally for us here in Jerez."

Villeneuve and Schumacher both want a clear track ahead of them, and to win from the front. The last thing either wants is interlopers who might complicate the points-scoring permutations by getting in the way of their mano a mano fight,

 Pedro Diniz, who partnered Damon Hill this season, has signed a two-year deal to continue driving for Arrows. Brazilian Diniz, who competes in his 50th race this weekend, will drive with Mika Salo next year.

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



Friday's solution

ACROSS

Machine, sort author has? (10) Officer overlooking leaseholder's place (4) Deny Detective Inspector's involved in arrangement with

hired killer (10) 10 Card holding making you pass? (4) 12 Elements, perhaps, of different types you'd

find in Malvern? (7.5) 15 Disgusting punter upset about poor nag (9) 17 The rest of the art world? (5) 18 Box containing oriental

weapon (5) 19 Country almost subsumed within a single whole? It's the stuff of

fiction (9) 20 Posh car is dazzling. with special window fitments (6,6) 24 Resistant units using official insignia (4)

Layer in brickwork going muddy? (4.6) 26 Place for some collec-Bolder plea for reform 23 East River in Maine? It's

bad? (10)

DOWN Parasite identified in a

very short time (4) Penultimate ball going for six? (4) Sisters with a job to do?

(7,5) Music label featuring in German article (5) Record broken by new champion, a wizard (9) Philistine's nervous reaction when wild Istrian

comes over (10) Minimises the importance of daily prunes when one no longer appears irregular? (10)

11 An oxymoron, of course (5-3-4) 13 Rank-and-file cheers, giving support to police informer (5-5)

14 Regulation ignored by the over-seventies? (5,5) 16 Herald beat a drum, unusually (9)

21 Drive that is completed by unqualified motorist - po-lice will be involved (5) 22 Agency offering advice about right type of seafood? (4)

nothing more than a lake

of what's hopelessly The first five correct solutions to this week's puzzle opened next Thursday receive hardbacked copies of the Oxford Dictionary of Quotations. Answers and winners' names will be published next Saturday. Send solutions to Saturday Crossword, P.O. Box 4018, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5BL. Please use the box number and postcode and give your own postcode. Last week's winners: J Walton, Epsons; L Thom

Forgetful Tufnell given suspended ban

Philip Tufnell is a cricketer who has courted controversy as Aristotle Onassis once courted beautiful women - often and not always with regard to those close to him. Derek Pringle was at Lord's yesterday to hear the outcome of the spin bowler's latest misdemeanour.

Philip Tufnell remembered to turn up at Lord's yesterday. something he claimed he forgot to do at Chelmsford, when he failed to submit a urine sample in a random drugs test during Middlesex's last game of the season against Essex.

Normally, such absentmindedness is tantamount to testing positive and is an admission of guilt. Under the chairmanship of Gerard Elius QC, however, the five-man disciplinary panel of the England and Wales Cricket Board accepted the England spinner's explanation and Tufnell left the hearing with a suspended 18-month ban, a £1,000 fine, and £250 costs.

involved, there are conditions attached. Although Tufnell will be able to tour the West Indies with England early next year. the first part of the punishment - a suspended rather than imposed ban - will only stand providing the spinner submits himself to a dope test of the Board's choosing in 1997 and 1998, and that he does not provide a positive sample during the period of his suspension.

Considering cricket's image as upholder of Victorian values, it is inevitable that there will be those who will feel that Tufnell has been fortunate to escape so lightly. And that in view of his brilliant 11 for 93 against Australia in the final Test, some serious behind the scenes lobbying to ensure his presence

in the West Indies had gone on. More pertinent, though, is that having been part of the Sports Council's doping control programme since 1985, that cricket is not seen to be looking spokesman, but not a panel

"I can assure you," said Lamb, "that each case is treated on its merit and that the integrity of the dope testing procedure is more important than any selection for the national side."

However, when asked what would be done to ensure that other players could not use the same excuse - Viv Richards refused a dope test in 1993 without censure - he admitted that the procedure would have to be tightened up, though he felt the punishment meted out on Tufnell would send a powerful message to players.

Leaving the three-hour meeting Tufnell, who has 14 days to appeal, had been advised not to comment on the meeting. Instead the ECB issued a statement pointing out that the Middlesex spinner had four

charges brought against him. The first two, which Tufnell pleaded guilty to, included failing take the drug test and failing to follow the procedures of after one of its own. It was a the test. The last two, which he point Tim Lamb, the ECB's denied, were the wilful failure to provide a specimen and the

As expected when a judge is member, was quick to counter. deliberate avoidance of the test by his early departure from the ground.

Tufnell, nicknamed "the Cat", claimed to have been in some discomfort on the day in question, some ointment for a wasp sting apparently getting into his eyes. This was backed up by his county captain, Mark Ramprakash, who accompanied Tufnell to the hearing.

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Like his denial during the winter, when the proprietors of a Christchurch restaurant accused him of smoking cannabis in a disabled toilet - an allegation that when investigated by the tour manager, John Barday, was found to have no substance -Tufnell's version of events has again been taken at face value.

Indeed, the panel's leniency was probably swayed by his aborted attempt - not many bowlers would have much fluid on board after two sessions in the field - to provide a sample in the tea break on the day in

question. Nevertheless, Tufnell can probably count himself fortunate that he was not given an 18-month ban as Ed Giddins was at this time last year. Here is surely a "Cat" with more than

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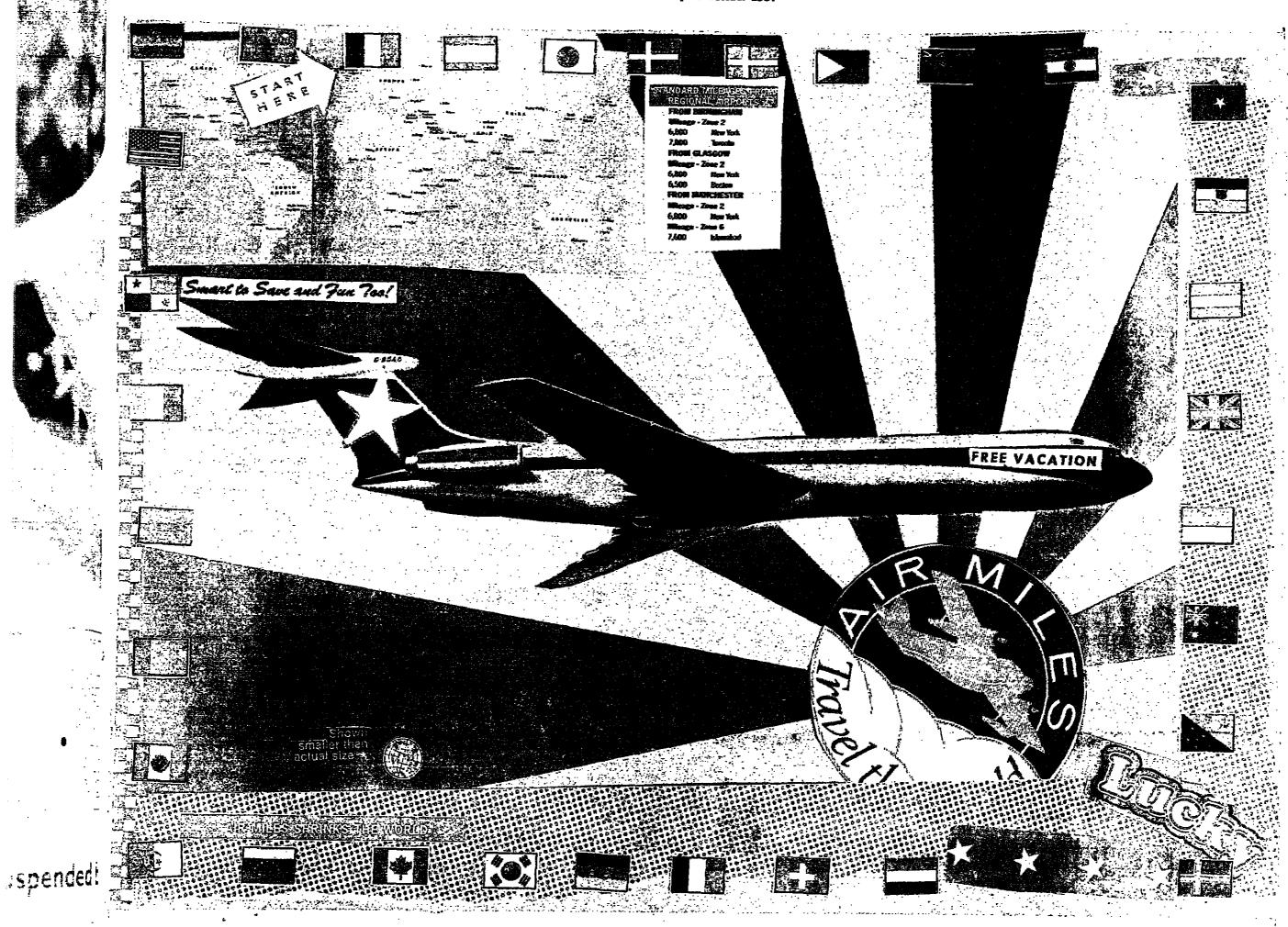
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YOUR MONEY

PERSONAL FINANCE, PROPERTY & MOTORING

Saturday 25 October 1997



The road to free travel is strewn with flowers

Collecting Air Miles for a "free" trip to Paris can mean spending as much as £9,000 or less than £200, depending on which supplier you choose. As increasing numbers of retailers latch on to punters' wanderlust, Paul Slade looks heavenwards for the best deals

This week's return of wintry skies across much of the country will have set many of us planning next year's holiday. But if you are relying on topping up your Air Miles to help pay for that break, it is worth putting some thought into just where you spend your hardearned cash in the meantime.

Shopping around is not always easy, however. This week, Cheltenham & Gloucester, the home loans arm of Lloyds Bank, launched a mortgage which pays 1,000 Air Miles for each full £5,000 you borrow at its existing 8.45 per cent variable rate. It is virtually impossible, however, to make a meaningful comparison with ther Air Miles offers, such as

European Ferries.

Even the retailers that offer Air Miles as an incentive dish them out on vastly different terms. Each mile you collect can mean spending as little as 35p or as much as £20.

To illustrate this point, we have taken two examples. The first is a trip to Paris, a very popular destination for Air Miles travellers, and one which requires 450 miles for the return

from NatWest or P&O trip. The second is an off-peak return trip to New York available until 31 March next year and costing 2,900 miles instead of the usual 6,800. The miles have to be redeemed with British Airways, whose pre-tax cash prices start at £88 for a return to Paris and £179

for a return to New York. One of the best retailer deals on offer at the moment comes from Flying Flowers, which delivers bouquets by

HOW MUCH	YOU SPEN	D FOR YOU	UR MILES
Supplier	Spand per mile	Rtn to Paris	Rtm to AY (11)
Hying Flowers(1)	£0.35	£157	£1,035
P&O European(2)	€0.58	£261	£1,682
Linguaphone (3)	20.89	£400	£2,581
Choc Express	£1.00	£450	£2,900
World Wines(4)	£1.25	£562	£3,625
Allied Carpets (5)	£2.00	2900	£5,800
Shell(6)	£6.00	£2,700	£17,400 ·
Sainsbury	£6.25	£2,812	£18,125
BT(7)	210.00	£4,500	£29,000
Office World(8)	£10.00	£4,500	£29,000
C&G(9)	£5.00	£2,500	£14,500
NatWest(10)	£20.00	29,000	£58,000

(1) Christmas bouqueis, 218.99, expires 31/1/98; (2) 36-hour returns, Dover to Calais, 229, Expires 19/12/97; (3) professional course, £399.90; (4) 12-bottle crates, £49.99; (5) Minimum spend £500; (6) Shell advanced fuel; (7) PremierLine customers; (8) Minimum spend £20; (9) Shows sum to be borrowed on £36 Air Miles Mortgage, minimum £5,000; (10) Excludes cash advances, purchase of transitiers' cheques and foreign currency, interest and other charges; (11) Flights must be taken by 31/3/98

are priced at £18.99 each, and earn you 55 miles for every one you buy - equivalent to one mile for every 35p spent. Nine bouquets, costing a total of £170.91, would get you to Paris and back with 45 miles left over.

"Air Miles customers are not our normal target market," Tim Dunningham, managing director, says. "As we were going to be recruiting new customers, we could afford to be generous with the Air Miles we gave. There is a big difference in the reward level you get from us and most other people."

At the other end of the spectrum, NatWest hands out its own Air Miles at the rate of one mile for every £20 spent on its credit and charge cards. How many miles you earn will depend on whether the retailers you choose are also part of the scheme but relying on NatWest alone for your Paris trip would mean spending £9,000.

Office World is among the least generous retailers in the scheme, handing out enough miles for the Paris trip only when you have spent £4,500. It hopes to improve this soon.

Of course, there is no rea-

son why you should rely on a

post. Its Christmas bouquets miles you need. Consider another scenario: you buy eight bouquets, at a total cost of £151.92, taking care to pay for them with your Nat West card.

This process - a strategy known as "double-dipping" ~ earns you 440 miles from Flying Flowers, plus another seven from NatWest, leaving you only three miles short of the Paris trip. It is then the work of a moment to call Choc Express to order a £4.95 box of Belgian chocolates, scoring an extra five miles, and taking your total haul to 452.

With this option, you have spent a total of £156.87, eight of your Christmas present problems are solved, and you can eat the chocolates on your way to the airport. Looked at another way, the flowers and the chocolates have cost you £68.87 on top of the £88 airfare you would otherwise have paid.

For the New York trip, Frances Tindall, Air Miles spoke-woman, says: "If somebody was smart about their collecting, with an average monthly spend on shopping and petrol, both double-dipping and collecting at lots of different outlets, they could collect 2,900 Air Miles in nine months. That's quite a manageable goal single supplier to amass the for an ordinary traveller."

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Has the Pru no shame?

NIC CICUTTI

A few years ago, the then chief executive of Prudential. a chap called Mick Newmarch, had a brainwave. He was so convinced a new financial regulator being set up at the time - the Personal Inanswer is very little. vestment Authority (PIA) would be a dud, that he re-

fused to join it. Instead, the Pru remained directly regulated by the Securities and Investments Board (SIB), the senior City watchdog, the core of which will form the new super-regulator favoured by the

Lahour Government. Old Mick has gone. But with hindsight, his "refusenik" approach has served his former employer rather well. Had the Pru been watched over by the PIA, there is no doubt that it would have been hit with the largest-ever fine to be levied on any financial services company, running into many

millions of pounds. The issue (isn't it always?) was the company's inability to meet its deadlines for compensating victims of the pension transfer scandal. more than 50,000 of whom were Pru customers. By one Nice to see M&G, the vast of these strange quirks, the fund manager, announcing a SIB is not allowed to fine its

members, while the PIA is. So, a public reprimand for the Pru then, one that was speedily accepted by its spokespeople, along with promises (aren't there always more promises?) to give redress to those wronged far more swiftly. Quite what any redress will be worth to those who have already died is a the outflow of money from subject we won't go into.

But hang on, wasn't the Pru already one of those agers: treat investors as supposedly companies

"named and shamed" by Labour's Treasury Minister, Helen Liddell, for its failures on the same issue a few months ago? What good did that do? A good question: the

Every few months we hear again of the failures of insurers to make reparations to those whom they shafted so beautifully a few years ago.

What is now amply clear is that the strategy of "name and shame", the hope that by pointing the finger at companies they will do better, is failing. These people have little or no sense of shame.

What is now needed is a new approach: massive fines not on companies but on their directors.

Taking £50,000 out of some bloated board member's pocket would do wonders to ensure compensation is paid more swiftly. Levying a fine of £1,000 for each day that redress goes over deadline is another. Disqualification from ever working in the City would be another option. Will Mrs Liddell act? Don't hold your breath.

revamp of its product range. And not a minute too soon. The company, which has billions of pounds of small policyholders' money under its control, faced a growing exodus of redemptions from its funds, as they consistently failed to deliver competitive returns. It is too soon to say what will happen now. But M&G in the past few months is a lesson to all fund man-

dumb animals at your peril.

MONEY MAKEOVER

When pension options have to be left open

Name: Angela Sargeant Age: 37

Occupation: Accountant

The problem: Angela works for a publishing company on a fixed-term contract, expiring in March. She earns £35,000 plus discretionary bonuses. There are no other financial benefits, including pensions, from her present employment, although Angela has some preserved pension benefits from previous employers.

She has a repayment mortgage of £50,000 with Abbey National, which has about 13 years to run, while her property is presently worth £75,000. Angela, who is single, also has

about £16,000 in Premium Bonds, the Government-backed prize draw. She has no life cover. She would like advice on pensions planning and income protection in the event of illness. The adviser: David Wright, a director at Johnstone Douglas, financial planning consultants, Lennig House,

Masons Avenue, Croydon, Surrey, CRO 9XS, (0181 686 0660) The advice: With regard to your mortgage, I agree that there is no need for you to have life cover while you do not

have any financial dependents. As for your Premium Bonds, which you may use over the short to medium-term as deposit for another house, if that is the purpose, your money is best left in a very-low risk environment, such as where it is.

Given that you are on a one-year employment contract, a personal pension is the most obvious choice. However, you need a pension which is flexible. This is because you may renew your contract, or take on a contract with another



important Photograph: company, or indeed join another firm

Therefore any pension needs to be transferred in or stopped, increased or decreased, at any time without penalty. There are companies that offer these types of contract. You wished to look at a fund that had a low to medi-

as a full-time employee which may well

operate some form of pension scheme.

Philip Meech um range of investment risk. Based on your current ago, you are eligible to contribute 20 per cent of your gross

Working

on fixed-

contracts

makes

pension

choice

into a personal pension. We agreed that you would consider investing a lump sum of £3,000 gross. coupled with a monthly contribution of £300 gross, both to a selected re-

taxable earnings in the current tax year

tirement age of 60. In addition I have included a costing for premium waiver, which will pay the pension for you should you not be able to work through accident, sickness or ill-health, after a deferment period of six months. In this way, you "insure" your pension payments. The cost of this benefit is 2.25 per cent of the premium.

I recommend Scottish Mutual which, despite its name, is no longer a mutual office, having been acquired by Abbey National in 1991. The scheme offers a flexible contract, coupled with a competitive charging structure and has a choice of funds to suit your risk profile.

The funds I recommend are Scottish Mutual's controlled risk funds. With these arrangements you are guaranteed a percentage of the funds that cannot go down. This can be chosen between 95 and 100 per cent.

The guarantee is renewed on a quarterly basis in January, April, July and October. If you choose the 100 per cent option your money is guaranteed at the end of each quarter to be worth no less than the original investment. The 95 per cent option gives a maximum downside exposure of 5 per cent each quarter. At the end of each quarter, any gains in the fund are "consolidated" and the guarantee starts again.

At present, you have nothing protecting your income. Your employer will pay some amount of sick pay for up to eight weeks. Permanent health insurance pays an income should you not be able to work due to accident, sickness or ill-health. It carries a deferment period and has to be written to a final age. You should look at a

three to six-month deferment, with benefits payable to age 60. We looked at covering for 50 per cent of your income. I recommend Friends Provident,

one of the largest providers of this contract. Its claims experience is vast and it offers various types of policy.

There is also critical illness cover, which pays a tax-free lump sum on diagnosis of a range of diseases, including heart attacks, strokes, cancer and multiple scienosis. I recommend General Accident a leading provider whose contract covers a comprehensive range of medical conditions.

To cover your mortgage in the eventuality of a critical illness claim for the rest of its term, the cost would be £15.46 per month.

Once your pension and protection cover are in place we can then look at other aims, such moving to a larger property. The majority of your savings should be in short-term investments where there is no risk to capital.

If a new property is to be purchased your savings will be depleted and you would need to consider some form of savings for the medium to long term. I would recommend a PEP. Although the future of PEPs after April 1999 is uncertain, they still remain one of the most tax-efficient investments currently available.

The verdict: I'm quite pleased with the advice I was given. But what I would have preferred is a choice of different products with an explanation of their different charges. Also, I'm not entirely sure my aversion to investment risk is that great. I will probably need to talk to the company to get another option for my personal pension.

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necessary. Further, policyholders do not have to exhaust the savings part of the plan in order to claim on the insurance.

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Drawbacks and risks: Graham Bates, of Leeds-based indepen-

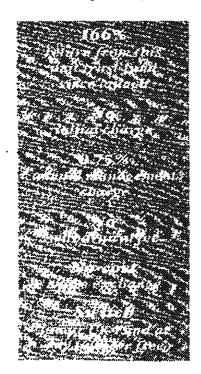
The product: Royal Skandia's ai Skandia works out how large vides counselling on what to do is returned, even if a claim is un-chances of savings growth. With a year in order to meet the levmany policyholders not know- el of cover required; there is no ing what to do at point of claim, choice of risk. Because it is an off-Bupa's counselling is valuable. shore fund, there may be unwelcome tax implications if the policy is surrendered or on death. Charges are on the higher side. Marks out five: Two-and-a-bit. -Andrew Verity

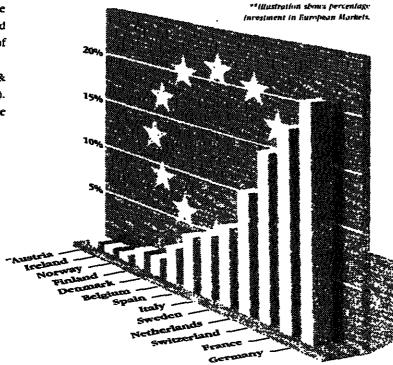
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3/PERSONAL FINANCE

COLLECT TO INVEST

Wear it or just drape it over the sofa

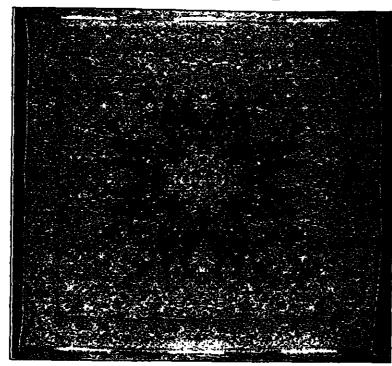
Kashmir shawls became popular in Victorian times to cover the halfexposed bosoms of shivering ladies awaiting carriages after balls. It is a wonder they are not more fashionable today. But, as John Windsor explains, they are due for a revival.

Prices slumped in the late Eighties when interior designers, who had bought them as wall hangings, embraced plain, unpatterned minimalism.

But prices are firming up and a just-published revised edition of Frank Ames's definitive The Kashmir Shawl and Its Indo-French Influence should spark new interest.

You can get a sense of the power of their colour and design by visiting Guinevere Antiques in King's Road, west London, where a whole room is hung with over 30 of them. It's the look for cosy studies and small, seductive sitting rooms -Bohemian and exotic.

At forthcoming auctions at Christie's South Kensington and Bonhams Chelsea, expect to



Take the wrap: A square shaw! by a 19th Century French designer, worth about

pay £400-£600 for big European inal Kashmir shawl, especially shawls of about 1860 such as a

Paisley, Edinburgh or Norwich. Victorian manufacturers used to crowd the quays and squabble over designs newly disembarked from Kashmir, carrying them off to their weaving sheds

However, the author Mr with an unusual design, can Ames, who deals in shawls in command £2,000 or so. Indian ex-New York - and who used to be patriates are now outbidding an electronic engineer on the London dealers at auction. For NASA lunar space project - rethem, Kashmir shawls are not ports that Indian dealers selling sofa drapes, table covers, and certo tourists in India and the new tainly not to cut up for cushions: indigenous middle class in to copy. A good-condition orig- they are wearable heritage. Bombay, New Delhi and Cal-

into neat one-metre by twometre sizes, backing them with cloth for display and bundling them off to the boutiques of five-star hotels.

During Victorian times shawis expanded in size to 121in by 63in or so - to keep pace with the expansion of the booped crinoline skirt. What put paid to the shawl was the bustle in bustle made ladies look like the rear end of a pantomime horse.

If you want a smaller, more wearable size of shawl, go for an early 19th century model, such as the 54in by 118in ivory wool woven one with a border of eight large floral cones, estimated £300-£500, that is among over 30 shawls in Christie's South Kensington's textiles sale on 11 November (2pm).

Bonhams' sale on 29 October (11am) offers 11 shawls, including a red, green and orange woven wool Paisley, 121in by 63in, estimated £400-£600. Bonhams' Joanna Macfarlane says: "Some interior designers shy away from them because the colours are so strong. But they

do give that warm-study look." Helen Gardiner, at Alfie's indoor market in Church Street. north-West London, a dealer in

cutta are cutting up the big ones shawls for 30 years, reports: "We sell every one we get, even the holey ones. They have kept their value". She has Paisley designs from £200 to £600-£700 and a fine Kashmir at £2,000.

The shawl shown here, 73in by 74in, of about 1835, is by the Frenchman Jean Baptiste Couder (1797-1865), known to collectors as the first French artist to distinguish himself as 1869-70, Shawls draped over a a shawl designer. Mr Ames values it at about £900.

Do not be put off if your Kashmir shawl appears on close inspection to be made of eight pieced-together panels. The panels were traditionally made on different looms. Mr Ames says they were joined by skilled tailors who could make near-invisible seams by enmeshing the warp threads of two panels.

"The Kashmir Shawl" by Frank Ames, from Antique Collectors' Club. 5 Church Street, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 1DS, £45 plus £3 p&p. Dealers: Helen Gardiner (0171-723 5595), Guinevere Antiques, 578 King's Road, London SW6 (0171-736 2917). Auctioneers: Alison Toplis, Christie's South Kensington (0171-321 3215), Joanna Macfarlane, Bonhams Chelsea

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INTERNET INVESTOR



ROBIN AMLÖT

Safe shopping on the web

You probably have more than one credit card, most people do nowadays. And you probably buy goods over the telephone. It might be something you see on television, hear about on the radio, read about in a magazine or see in these pages. It is but a small step from these transactions to purchasing goods from the world wide web.

Many familiar high street brand names and stores such as Asda and Boots have websites. Travel and holiday firms like AirUK offer potential bargains. Reserving flights or holidays online can often be cheaper than your local travel agent. Some supermarkets will take your shopping order and deliver the goods to your door within 24 hours. Hard-to-find books and CDs may also be purchased on the Internet.

Worries about the safety of Internet transactions have undermined confidence in online shopping. Let us look at the issue from the other side. Already, the worldwide market for Internet security products is worth around a billion dollars a year. Datamonitor, the research consultancy, reckons that within five years companies around the world will be spending seven times that amount on authentication, en-

cryption and anti-virus programmes. Other forecasts suggest that by the end of this year almost half a million consumers in the UK will have shopped over the Internet. So just how serious a threat is the possibility of fraud? The Metropolitan Police say most credit card fraud comes from receipts and carbon copies retrieved from bins. Cyberspace is actually safer and appears to be getting safer

In May this year, the US government gave export permission for the encryption software on which the Secure Electronic Transaction (SET) specification is based. In August SET was established as an open, licence-free, tech-

nical specification with the backing of Master-Card, Visa, Microsoft and Netscape, among others. SET is being marketed to web-based businesses and shoppers as a secure way of sending credit card information over the

> Once you are ready to shop, the world wide web is your oyster but your best bet is to stick with the names you already know and trust from the high street and shopping malls. Next month a major initiative aimed at boosting web-based commerce around Europe goes live.

> Both Mastercard and Visa are among the backers of e-Christmas, a site which will allow you to buy goods online and - this is the big difference - have them delivered to an address not that of the cardholder. There is potential for fraud here but, remember, you have legal protection and the credit card company would be responsible for stolen card information and any incorrect payments.

> Goldfish, the credit card which offers money off your gas bills, has a web site which goes into detail about net shopping and explains how to set your web browser programme to its maximum level of security. The site also has a directory of secure web retail sites.

Internet shopping rules

 Make sure that your browser is set to maximum security.

Shop with companies whose names are

familiar to you. When a site uses secure transaction technology, they will tell you. If there is no mention of security on the site, give it a miss.

 If in doubt, contact the company by phone and fax or post your order.

Goldfish: www.goldfish.com e-Christmas: www.e-christmas.com

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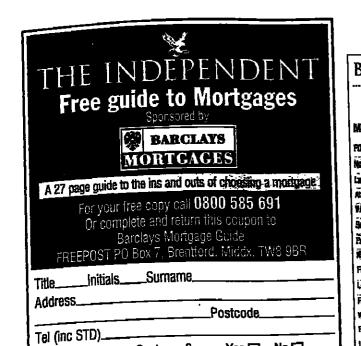
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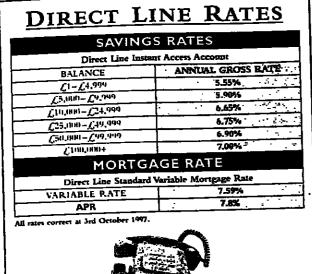
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4/PERSONAL FINANCE



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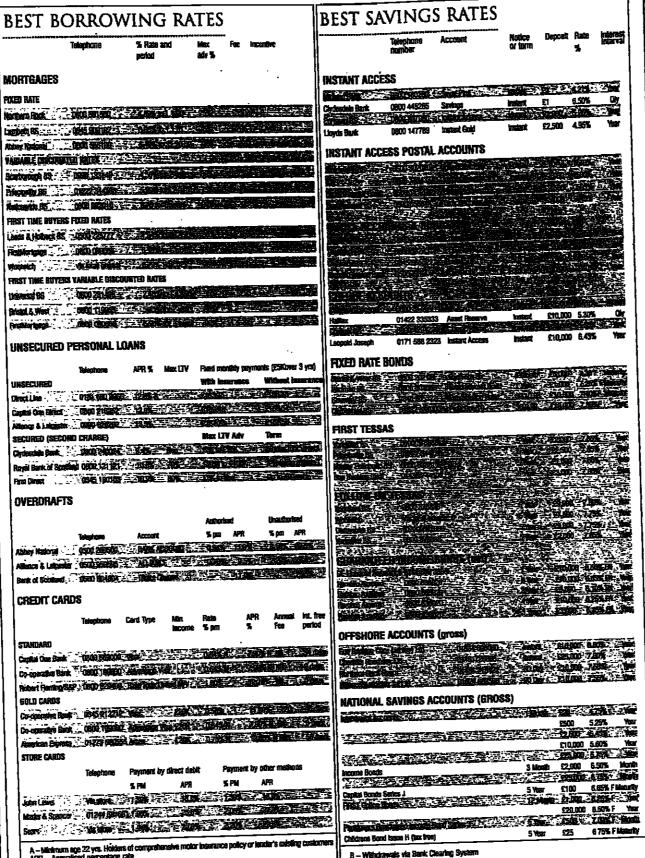
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A roaring typhoon

There was an inevitability about the meltdown in Hong Kong that must have left many money managers wondering why they did not sell earlier. Quite a number of people believed that the China link would somehow insulate Hong Kong from the typhoon that was roaring around the region.

Unfortunately, this approach probably exacerbated the problem. Many managers have been overweight in Hong Kong, preferring to gain their exposure to the region from that market rather than through a broader basket of countries where the ravages of currency speculation have created difficult stock market trading conditions.

There were, to be fair, some reasons for believing that a degree of immunity to the region's problems existed. Hong Kong's foreign exchange reserves are massive. However, the devaluations that have taken place have undoubtedly taken their toll.

Then, of course, there is the psychological damage this is doing. If indeed the Hong Kong dollar is prised free of the mighty greenback, then Hong Kong is relegated to a seaside town in the mighty empire of China Property values in Hong Kong were probably unsustainable anyway, so any further diminution of the its status will not do them any good.

The immediate result in London was a shake-out in prices that once again demontrading system. Few com-

25 Oct 1997

mentators believe that the fall in Hong Kong is a prelude to a new bear market, but London will inevitably pick up some of the ripples.

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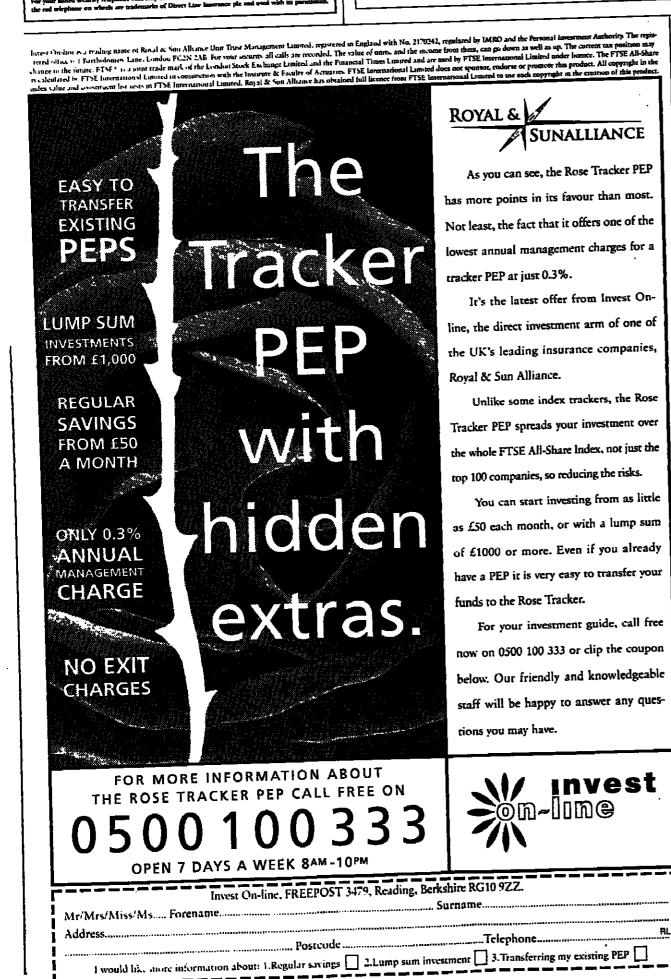
Interestingly, the shares of whisky distillers fell sharply on the news. I remember being told that Hong Kong was the largest market in the world for high quality French Cognac. My drinks analyst tells me this is because they re-export quite a percentage of it to China. It seems that sometimes Hong Kong can export more than it receives, but those Chinese always were very clever.

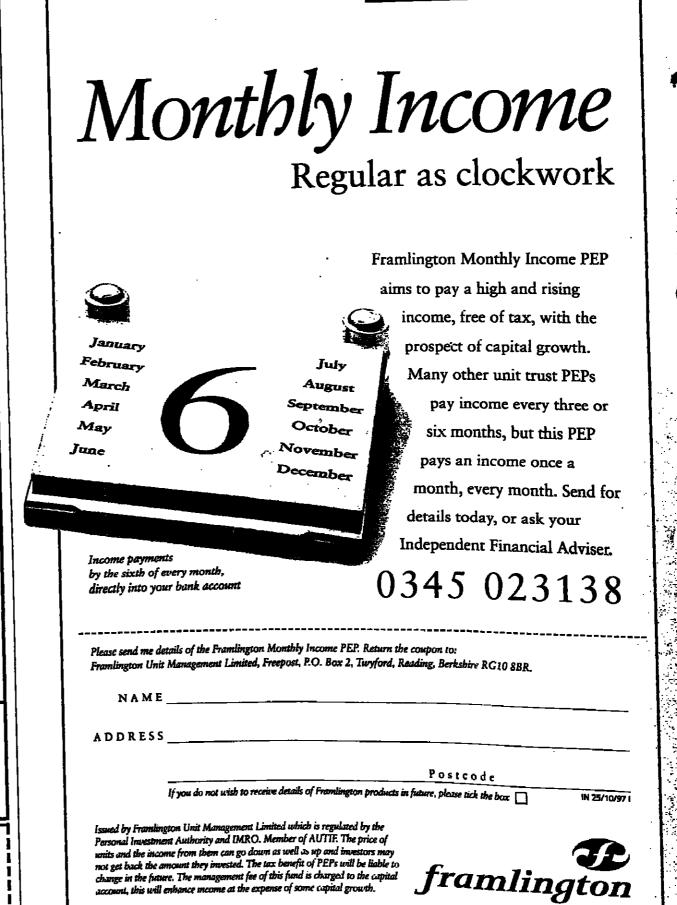
Wall Street had a mild attack of the jitters on the back of the news from the other side of the world, but overall we seem to be weathering it all quite well. Well, that is, apart from the new trading system. Standing on our trading floor on Thursday morning, the day that Hong Kong lost more than 10 per cent of its value, share prices fell 140 points on the back of a single trade. Now that is scary. If the London Stock Exchange really believes this is a stable market, they must have an in-

teresting definition of stable. So volatility is here to stay and the Eastern promise has vanished as fast as a chocolate bar in the Pacific sunshine. For the time being, taking a conservative approach to investment looks no bad thing. Cash could be king for a while.

Brian Tora is chairman of the investment strategy committee strated the fragility of the new at Greig Middleton and can be contacted on 0171 6554000

INCOME PEP





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A chance to back the boffins and their inventions



Venture veteran: Lucius Carey is interested in new companies with a technological edge

Here is a proposition. We run an investment fund that only invests in high-risk start-up businesses. They have to based on a new piece of technology which may or may not have a market. They will be run mostly by boffins with little or no commercial experience. You won't get any money back for at least five years and how much you make is anybody's guess. And one final thing. We only invest in businesses which are physically located within a

60-mile radius of our offices. plain barmy? Well, now there agement buyouts, or investors is a chance to find out. The fund is called the Oxford Technology Venture Capital Trust, nesses: According to Lucius and it is - in theory at least - Cary, author of the standard traded on the London Stock Exchange.

It is true that no shares have actually been traded yet, but the last quotation put a price on them of 115p. This represents a handsome premium over the asset value of 95p; and is all the more remarkable since the trust has yet to make its first investment. All the company has at the moment is a pile of cash, which it raised from investors in March.

Oxford Technology is one of under the name of venture capital trusts. These are investment trusts which offer tempting tax breaks to those who invest in them (both income tax and capital gains tax relief on the amount invested, plus exemption from eventual capital gains on any profits, provided the shares are held for five trust, and something of a vetvears or more).

They started life as the latest in a long line of Government attempts to kick-start a genuine culture of venture capital in this country, using the fiscal system as an incentive. Venture capital, in British financial circles, is a portmanteau term that covers a multitude of financing forms.

A big chunk of the deals which go to make up the £1bo or so of transactions recorded by the British Venture Capital Association each year are not really venture capital at all. They Sounds interesting? Or are bankers financing manfunding the expansion plans of already well-established busiventure capital yearbook, less than 5 per cent of the deals billed each year are "genuing venture capital" deals, in the sense of providing seedcorn capital for high-risk businesses.

The hole is particularly acute in areas of high technology, where the investment community's traditional reluctance to back start-up businesses is compounded by its inability to judge whether or not the technology bas any realistic chance of success. Partly about 20 new funds which go for that reason, most seedcorn capital in this country that does find its way into start-up ventures of this kind comes from so-called "business angels" rather than traditional

> Mr Cary is one of the moving lights behind the establishment of the Oxford Technology eran of the venture capital

business. In 1972, at the age of 23, he started his own business, a restaurant in Bristol, using £26,000 of capital he had begged and borrowed from a number of different investors. The process was so painful that a few years later, having handed the running of his restaurants (now three in number) to managers, he decided to start a newsletter, Venture Cap-

ital Reports, to try and help plug

the funding gap. Since 1983, Mr Cary has also set up and managed five pools of genuine seedcorn capital for two much larger venture capital institutions, Apax Partners and 3i. He is the investment adviser to the Oxford Technology trust, which will be his biggest fund to date, with around £3m to invest. The normal life of one of his

seedcorn funds is 10 years. The first two are approaching the end of their lives, with all but one of their investments in both cases now having been realised (ie sold, passed on or simply abandoned). Despite the inevitable failure rate, the first fund will have returned around 25 per cent more than investors put in by the time it is closed. The other will have more than doubled the investors' original stake.

His greatest interest has always been in new ventures with a technological edge. Funding start-ups is an interesting but inevitably hit-and-miss business. Take the V-shaped photocopier, for example, a device which allows libraries to copy rare books without damaging. their spines. This is one of the

ventures Mr Cary helped to fund with his seedcorn funds. It is a great technical success, but so far not enough libraries round the world have bought it to make the business profitable. Will the Oxford Technolo-

gy trust work out well for its investors? It has a strong board, including two Oxford academics, Sir Martin Wood and Michael O'Regan, who started what are now highly successful quoted companies (Oxford Instruments and RM Group) in their back bedrooms. It expects to make around 15 investments over four years or so.

will be completed any day now. They include: a "biocidal" powder coating which could cut the risk of e-coli and other health risks if applied to fridges and meat containers; an instrument which measures optical surfaces more accurately than any predecessor, and a device for retrieving stored information quickly and cheaply over the Internet. Venture capital trusts have

The first four investments

not been going long enough to prove themselves as investment vehicles: one obvious wrinkle with the concept is that, as the tax breaks require holders to invest for five years, there are no sellers to create a market in the shares until that stage. But if Mr Cary and his colleagues can demonstrate that investors can make money out of helping to kick-start entrepreneurial talent, nobody should begrudge them their

UNDERSTANDING THE STOCK MARKET

How do shares defy gravity?

market are confused when share prices move in the opposite direction to their expectations. For example, a company announces a large increase in profits - its the barometers of the economy, share price falls. A normally profitable organisation announces a loss - its share price

soars. What a topsy-turvy world. There is a logical explanation for both situations. Before revealing why the share prices appeared to defy gravity, let us take a look at the reason why share prices fluctuate.

A share in a company represents a minute portion of a business. Investors are partowners of that company. If the business thrives, investors share in that success. They are rewarded with their share of some of its profits by receiving dividends. The rest is ploughed back into the business, hopefully to increase its profitability.

The price of a particular share is determined by supply and demand. In other words, the price will settle where buyers will purchase all the shares offered by sellers. If investors wish to buy more shares than are being

versa. The price investors are prepared to pay reflects their views of future rewards.

The stock market is one of so the general movement of share prices reflects views of economic prospects. If the future looks good, investors will be attracted to buy shares and prices will move upwards. The reverse will be the case if gloom is seen on the horizon. The economic outlook is not restricted to the

tends to other countries. Professional investors are interested in what is going to happen rather than what has happened. Therefore the fundamental long-term economic and political factors are built into share prices in anticipation of the future. Of course, expectations and reality do not always coincide. For example. the 1990-91 recession was largely anticipated in share prices. However, when certain companies reported results

market reacted with a fall. Then there are the factors

Many new followers of the stock sold, prices will rise and vice which relate to the shares of specific companies. Some will have a favourable and others an adverse effect on prices. It may be a company's results, the launch of a new product expected to take the world by storm or the

resignation of a chief executive. There are two possible exalanations for the announcement of bumper profits resulting in a fall in the share price. Investors may have been expecting even better figures. In anticipation the company's share price would have moved upwards in previous UK's likely performance, but exmonths. The disappointment of the published results would trigger the shares being marked down. On the other hand, the results could have been as anticipated, but the chairman could

have signalled a fall in profits for the following year. A fall in a company's profits, or even a loss, can result in the share price soaring. It may be that the loss is not as bad as investors anticipated, or the results are accompanied by a statement from the company that it will exceed all possible exmuch worse than expected, the pectations the following year.

On the other hand, there

Woolwich: Takeover talk could be aiding the shares

could be speculation in the market that the company will be the victim of a takeover. Shares in Woolwich, for instance, may be doing well for this reason. A bid from another company undoubtedly triggers an increase in the demand for shares.

One of the more bizarre reasons for one company's shares failing sharply was when it cancelled some hotel rooms. The market believed this signalled a delay in a long-awaited new product. In fact the company was merely postponing a training seminar.

'Share Ownership for All', an easy-10-read guide for new shareholders, is available from the London Stock Exchange: 0171-

LOOSE **CHANGE**

Alliance Trusts, the investment trust firm, is launching a self-invested personal pension for the self-employed and people in partnerships. The pension allows staggered retirement after age 50. Initial investment is set at £250 and there are no penalties for halting and starting contributions. Charges start at £1, plus 0.15 per cent stockbrokers' com-

mission: Call 01382 201700. Chase De Vere, the mortgage broker, is offering a fixedrate home loan, pegged at 6.85 per cent until November 2000. The loan also offers an option to switch to the lenders' variable rates without penalty. The loan is available to 70 per cent of value and has an arrangement fee

of £295. Call 0171 9307242. Invest On-line, the direct investment arm of Royal & Sun Alliance, is offering a tracker PEP charging 0.3 per cent a year, with an initial fee of 2 per cent and no exit fees. The PEP is cheaper then its main rivals, Virgin and Legal & General, for regular contributions under £100 a month. Call 0500 100333.

John Charcol, the mortgage broker, has launched a site on the Internet with details of its best mortgages and investments, and a mortgage repayment calculator. The site is on: www.johncharcol.co.uk

Age Concern Financial Services is launching a 50-Plus life assurance plan, jointly with Commercial Union, guaranteeing cover to anyone aged 50 to 85. No medicals are needed. Premiums of £10 a month will buy cover worth £2,826 for a male aged 50 last birthday. Call 0181 7657239.

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You don't have to be rich to approach these experts

"Stockbrokers only deal on behalf of the very rich," is a commonly held view. It is also wrong. Around 17 million people now own shares and many more know something about the stock market through the Government's privatisation programme. As loanne Bridon explains, knowing a broker can come in handy

Stockbrokers are far removed from the stereotyped images often portrayed in the media. They are approachable and friendly. Moreover, they are also accessible: about 95 per cent of the population lives within 10 miles of a stockbroker's office.

But why invest in equities? If you take a medium-term view, direct investment in UK equities has consistently outperformed most other types of investment, particularly building society and other forms of deposit account.

But there is more to owning shares than the prospect of capital gains. They also generate income in the form of dividends, which should rise to reflect a company's continuing prosperity.

Shares are risk investments. Prices can go down as well as up and the "crash of 1987" is often mentioned.

- and even this week's bout of nerves in London and the Far East - do little to undermine the continuing long-term upward trend in the performance of ordinary shares.

The key to success is to receive high quality impartial advice from someone who is professionally qualified and whose knowledge of investment matters is not second-hand, operating in a strict regulatory framework.

Almost all of the firms who look after individual investors in shares are members of the Association of Private Client Investment Managers and Stockbrokers (APCIMS), the trade association that promotes those firms and, by extension, the interests of the private investors who use their services.

What makes APCIMS members different? Direct access to the stock market. The majority of our firms are members of the London Stock Exchange and are therefore unique in having direct and immediate access to it for buying and selling shares. Our other members have forged strong links with member firms of the Stock Exchange to ensure cost-effective dealing arrangements.

The computerised systems now available mean that brokers do not have to be located in the City of London:

they can be in your local high street.

However, the surge and fall of 1986/7 breadth and depth of investment experience and knowledge which APCIMS members make available to their clients contrasts with that of many other financial advisers. Their expertise is often limited to the selling of a handful of "packaged" products offerred by the big insurance companies.

APCIMS members are truly independent, unlike many other company salespeople, many of whom are "tied" to a particular company and are only allowed to sell that firm's products. The advice given is completely impartial. Furthermore, all charges are disclosed to you in advance.

All APCIMS members are regulated by either the Securities and Futures Authority or the Investment Managers' Regulatory Organisation, two of the City's toughest watchdogs. Stockbrokers are subject to demanding tests of their financial resources. agement controls.

APCIMS members provide services tailored to suit your individual circumstances and requirements. The main services available are:

 Advisory services – almost all members offer an advisory service where the professional advises on the purchase, sale or retention of individual stocks.

 Dealing or "execution-only" service - this is designed for investors who do



They are obliged to meet the most rig- The old image: The stereotyped idea of a stockbroker often orous procedural standards and man- portrayed in the media is wide of the mark

not require advice but who do need a life assurance, PEPs, TESSAs and so on.

stockbroker to buy and sell shares. Discretionary investment management services - this gives the manager the authority to buy and sell for you without obtaining your prior approval

on each and every occasion. Comprehensive financial planning this can include advice on the placing Joanne Bridon, is treasurer and secreof cash deposits, pensions, mortgages,

A comprehensive directory of APCIMS members, detailing the range of services they offer is available free by writing to APCIMS at: 112 Middlesex Street, London E1 7HY, quoting reference IND.

For a no-frills share dealing service, fees start at £2.50

If you want a traditional stockbroking service, with its portfolio management and advisory services, then you need at least £25,000 to invest in the stock market. Tony Lyons investigates options for the rest of us

Following the privatisations and the conversion of building societies to banks over the last few years, a lot of us have become shareholders. We have discovered that if we want to buy or sell these shares we have to do so through stockbroker. The question is: do we want just to deal in shares at low cost or do we want advice about which stocks to trade and when?

Not many of us have vast sums available yet we would still like to buy and sell shares. The rise of execution-only stockbroking over the past 10 years has grown to meet this demand.

We have become vitally important for those investors with small amounts of money available," says Gavin Oldham of the ShareCentre. "Traditional stockbrokers are not very welcoming. They work with just their own client list and won't accept new clients unless they have a lot of money

Walk down any high street and most of the main banks and building societies will offer you an execution-only trading facility for dealing in shares. In fact, they have over 60 per cent of the execution-only trading market. But they tend not to be as cheap as the specialist execution-only

brokers. ShareLink, the largest execution-only broker, about to change its name to Charles Schwab Europe, charges £10 to buy £1,000-worth of shares. CaterDeal, owned by Abbey National, will charge the same, while Sharemarket will charge just £9. Fees start at £2.50 at the Share-Centre for buying £250 worth of shares.

Charges with the banks and building societies vary but tend to be slightly higher. Use a traditional stockbroker, and the minimum you will be charged is at least £25. Up until now, execution-only brokers offered

no advice. ShareCentre is now introducing an advisory service to its customers. Costs are £15 a quarter and the use of a premium service phone line which costs £1.50p a minute.

"Execution only services are fine," says Nat

Jolowicz of Quilter Goodison. "Technical advances have made getting hold of information much easier. Newspapers are full of share tips and you can research companies through a computer screen.

"But comparing execution-only broking with our form of investment management is like food. You can read an Alistair Little cookbook, buy the ingredients and cook the meal at home. Or you can go to his restaurant and enjoy really good food in the right surroundings.

Stockbroking is polarising fast in this country between those who offer execution-only services and those who offer a more comprehensive investment management service. "We still believe that clients will pay a slightly higher cost for sound advice" says Mr Jolowicz.

Something in the City: a day in the life of a broker

I am responsible for overseeing three key areas of the business: dealing services, employee share dealing for quoted companies, and private clients. I also manage the portfolios for a number of my own clients.

During the course of this year, we expect to do over 900,000 retail trades on behalf of private clients. This means keeping ahead of events, which makes every day in the City of London a busy day.

I usually arrive in the office around 7.30am. By then, I have read the newspapers. My first tasks are to plan the day and review notes and papers for various meetings.

At 8.15 every morning. our head of research holds a short conference for brokers and fund managers. Here we review overnight events, particularly those in overseas stock markets, and look ahead to any company results or announcements expected that day. We decide at this meeting whether to change our stance on any rec-

ommended buys or sells. After this meeting, I review my private client portfolios and make changes to the discretionary ones where appropriate. Advisory clients are contacted and any changes are agreed. By coffee time at 10.15, I get round to looking at my post, deal with client correspondence and any other general stockbroking matters.

After this it is time for meeting clients. These may include representatives from companies operating employee share option and share dealing services.

By 12.30 I am ready for lunch - always a working lunch with clients. Here we discuss any relevant matter. For example, a client may have sold his business so we need to look at how his in-

vestment portfolio needs to change now that he has a much larger capital sum to invest. By 2.30pm, I'm back at my desk.

Mid-afternoon will usually see me with our marketing department. I am particularly keen to encourage the millions of new investors from this year's building society and insurance company demutualisations to become more regular investors.

So we are looking at ways of promoting a newsletter. called "A Share in Great British Companies" that we will introduce later this year, Having done a pilot study, we want to reach a larger audience. We hope we can provide it with an insight into the wider benefits of the stock market.

Come 4 o'clock, and we review the day in the stock market. By the time this meeting finishes, my correspondence is ready for me to

At 4.45. I have a regular meeting with our PEP office. We provide self-select and single company PEPs for investors who want to make their own decisions about holding equities. We provide the back office dealing services for all NatWest PEPs, so we have similar types of clients to the PEP managers of the banking and fund management arms of the bank. Like the rest of the industry, we are spending quite some time on considering what impact the introduction of Individual Savings Accounts will have on our future business.

After this meeting, I have a final chance to catch up on any phone calls and paperwork. Some days, I try to leave just after opm to try and play a game of indoor tennis. my way of trying to keep fit.

--Chris Ring, head of stockbroking, NatWest Stockbrokers.

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How the face of Footsie has changed

When the FTSE 100 share index the barometer of the UK stock market, was first calculated on 3 January 1984 it had a value of 1,000. By the end of the first day it closed at 997.5. What lessons can we draw to assess future trends? Steve Kelly, of Datastream/ ICV, the financial statistics provider, charts some answers

The story of Footsie can be seen very much as one of growth. Yet within that growth have been speciacular market reversals and individual failures, as well as successes.

By 16 October 1987, the index had increased to 2,301. One thousand pounds invested in the market that first January morning would have swelled to a comforting £3,080, assuming all dividends had

What came next, of course, was Black Monday - 19 October 1987. The market crash on that day and declines in the rest of 1987 meant that the original £1,000 was worth £2,500 by the end of that year.

Fast-forward to today. That original investment of £1,000 is now worth over £10,000; the Footsie still hovers close to 5,000, despite this week's reversals. In the last year alone the UK stock market has gained almost 25 per cent.



In the red: Gordon Brown, the Chancelor, at the Stock Exchange on Monday, when shares dived

But that brief review hides some fascinating nuggets on individual companies. Of the original 100 constituents only 46 still remain in the index, and some of these, like Glaxo, now Glaxo Wellcome, Midland Bank, now part of HSBC and Beecham. now Smithkline Beecham, have seen substantial change.

Many other organisations have experienced even more changes. Among those original members who have now left the index were Blue Arrow, British & Commonwealth, Exco International, Ferranti, Hawker Siddeley, Magnet & Southern, MFI and Trusthouse Forte.

Other notable ins and outs include Pol-

ly Peck, Saatchi & Saatchi. Next and

You can almost see in the changing pattern of the FTSE 100 a reflection of the changes in the UK economy. The waves of privatisation had not yet really begun in 1984. Now 14 constituents are present which were previously public utilities or nationalised industries. Another factor has been the significant increase in the weight of financial institutions. Partly fuelled by the demutualisation of building societies, there are now 15 financials in the index.

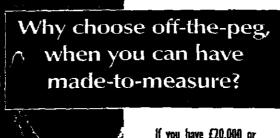
In the last year, the performance of some of these financial stocks, together with growth of major players in the pharmaceutical and oil sectors, has largely underpinned the Footsie's growth. The rest of the UK market, particularly many of the smaller capitalised stocks, has produced far more modest gains.

And where, for the future? History tells us that the UK market is closely linked to Wall Street (perhaps, after this week at least, the Far East too). The events of October 1987 in the London market were part of a North American-led phenomenon.

It is only to be expected that the UK market would fall if the New York Dow Jones Industrials Index were to decline sharply. Indeed the trends towards globalisation and the onset of round-theclock trading only serve to increase associations across many major markets

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How insurers get out of paying out

Insurance helps you sleep at night. Believing you're covered financially against all manner of disaster can really give you peace of mind. But what if this sense of security proves to be no more than an illusion? Rachel Fosen checks out your rights

Many people wake with a start when they come to claim on an insurance policy and find themselves turned down. Keen competition has cut margins in the underwriting business to the bone. Some in the industry claim this pressure is forcing insurers to avoid payouts wherever legally possible.

"Insurers' prices are pretty much at rock bottom at the moment," says Sharon Bolton, from the British Insurance and Investment Brokers Association (Biiba). "To put it bluntly, there's not much money to be made in underwriting, so they have to be very careful about what they pay out."

One loophole insurers can often exploit is known as "nondisclosure" or "misrepresentation". If you fail to disclose information which is considered to be material when you apply for insurance cover, then the company can refuse to meet any

claim you make on that policy. In one example, a family had all their copper plumbing stolen during a break-in. When they came to submit their claim to the insurance company with whom they held a household contents policy, they were given the thumbs down. The insurer said they had failed to disclose the fact that they lived close to a Romany site. In this case the insurer eventually paid up. It was proved that staff from the insurance company itself often drove past the site and must have been aware of its ex-

Increasingly insurers are



saying that they weren't given material information at the time the policy was written out, Ms Bolton says. "We think it's very unfair because the general public can't be expected to know what is material in-

But the office of the Insurance Ombudsman - the industry's watchdog - says policyholders often fall foul of the non-disclosure rules through their own fault. If you deliberately misrepresent the facts in an insurance applica-

your money paying premiums. "It is very important you think carefully about the answers you are giving, and if there's any doubt you should point this out," says Michael Lovegrove, of the Ombudsman's office.

tion, then you can be wasting

A lot of complaints fielded by the Ombudsman relate to alleged non-disclosure. Sometimes the fact that information

was missing turns out to be a mortgage protection policy completely innocent - where a question was simply not asked, Mr Lovegrove says.

But not always. "Fronting" is a sure way to render your car insurance void. This is typically where a man of 17 or 18 has his car insured under his father's name, to keep the premiums low, but is named as a driver on the policy. If a claim is investigated, insurance company staff can often detect fronting, by finding out if the father has a car himself, for example, or if the son drives the car to work.

The most common reason for any insurance claim being refused is that the policyholder believed something was covered which in fact was not. Anyone who sells you a policy should tell you whether there are any particular exclusions that apply to you, says Suzanne Moore of the Association of British Insurers. For instance.

might be intended for employed people. If a self-employed person was mistakenly sold that policy, a claim would probably be refused.

"It's always a good idea to at least skim through the policy documents when you have them, and find out what you might need when making a claim," Ms Moore says.

If your insurance policy is going to give you real peace of mind, you must make sure you are truthful when taking it out. "If there is anything at all you think may be relevant, then mention it, even if you are not directly questioned," says Harry Purchase, a consultant on insurance claims.

Bankruptcy, County Court judgments and fines must be disclosed. And mention any defects in your property or anything out of the ordinary, such as a nearby stream that might flood, Mr Purchase advises.

When making any claim, let the insurer know as soon as possible that you intend to claim. If there's a question on the form you can't immediately answer, explain this in writing. If there is a question which doesn't apply, don't leave it

blank - write this down too. If you do end up disagreeing with the decision made by your insurance company, first contact the person dealing with your claim. You should always be given a reason for a claim being refused.

If you think you have been treated unfairly, contact the Insurance Ombudsman's office. However, some insurers are not members of the Ombudsman scheme. Gripes may then have to be settled through the

Insurance Ombudsman, 0171 928 7600; Association of British Insurers, 0171 600 3333; BUBA, 0171 623 9043

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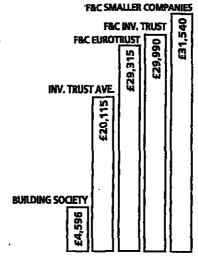
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Electronically-operated gatehouses, alarms, guards, dogs, CCTV cameras, sensors, extra locks, swipe cards, alarm bleepers - no. we are not talking maximum security prisons but a new style of accommodation aimed at delivering a safe environment for people to live in. Penny Jackson escapes to give her report

In St George's Hill, the Surrey stronghold of the rich and famous, there is now 24-hour monitoring by guards. At Barratt's new Virginia Water development, Wentworth Gate, the only access is through a permanently manned gatehouse. Swipe cards, keypads and cameras are not enough for some whose possessions come close to the value of their house. People at least can't go on the

If this seems American in flavour, it is. "They particularly like St George's Hill and if an American family is paying £7,000 a month rent, they have every right to insist on the highest security", says Victoria Lamb, of Oak Residential Lettings in Weybridge.

"They want to know that every coming and going is checked. But some English owners don't like the atmosphere and have moved out."

While clearly the influence of wealthy foreign buyers has ratcheted and old homes, the insurance industry has been very much a driving force in all sectors of the market as they offer competitive discounts if certain measures are taken.

The guard at Barratt's electronic gates may have won over a Middle East buyer, but even at modest developments people expect a few of the same security features.

It is not surprising, given that one in 34 homes were burgled in the UK last year. Even though some comfort are likely to be broken into, while Ip-are to London the more anxious they



up the security provisions in both new Porterhouse blues: when swipe cards and cameras are not enough, a manned gatehouse is the answer, as at Barratt's Virginia Water development

Photo: John Lawrence

ures which show a 10 per cent drop in burglaries in the UK, women and older people in particular regard security as a key issue.

According to a table compiled by the highest risk of burglary is Middlesborough, where one in 13 homes

homes burgled.

Meanwhile, London is much a below-average break-in rate of one fallen by 12 per cent this year.

Nevertheless, the closer people to be changed every week."

can be drawn from latest police fig- swich comes out as the most law- are about security. John August, of also installed a system by Telguard abiding with fewer than one in 80 Galliard Homes, says that some people are just plain paranoid.

"Although there may be two safer than is generally thought, with CCTV systems, monitored centrally and by residents, we have been asked Eagle Star, the insurers, the city with in 40. Burglaries in the capital have for at least three locks on doors, extra cameras and the swipe card code

At County Hall, Galliard has

which decodes an apartment number into a telephone number. "You can be miles away and use your mo-

bile to let someone into the build-

ing," explains Mr August. At Berkeley Homes, Paul Vallone sees it as the responsibility of the developer to fit the most suitable system.

signed with as few entrances as possible, and with cameras in all communal areas. The underground car-park's steel door can only be opened by a remote control blipper. which also activates the door to the development.

Much publicised muggings earlier this year in west London showed parking and many will only buy where there is an integral garage.

In older properties, security systems are constantly being upgraded - often after the owner has come home to find the door kicked in and the house ransacked. The police, though, have become much tougher with owners of faulty alarms.

In one area of south London, 97 per cent of call-outs were false alarms. A locksmith on the same patch finds he is fitting more security gates and grilles.

Security for the seller is a particular headache for David Forbes of Chesterfield, whose average sale is about £1.5m: "Our worry is that someone might pose as a buyer in order to case the joint. If we can't get a handle on them, we won't show them around. Some sellers won't even have a brochure for that reason. It gets pretty complicated when the wealthy or famous are operating under a pseudonym". He has seen more panic buttons going into houses and sensors into gardens.

In the country, unless the buyer is from the Middle East and sees an ambush down every lane, owners are generally more relaxed.

Sensitive and expensive systems are as much for insurance purposes as protection, finds Rupert Sweeting of Knight Frank: "There was one house surrounded by three close-knit wire fences, with prison razor wire on top. The owner said he wanted to go in and out of the house without locking his door." He adds: "I don't think you can beat fierce dogs; they are still the best form of security."

But not for the Wimbledon couple whose dog was so distraught. about being left alone to guard the house that it activated the latch on the front door. When they returned late at night they had to break in through a window, which set off the alarm. "Locked out by dog" at least has a novel ring on police files.

Security advice from Crime Prevention Officers National Approval Council for Security Systems (Nacoss); for list of Capital Wharf at Wapping was de- how vulnerable people are when recognised firms, tel: (01628 37512).

Home to the new parliament, but a maze to the unwary

As Scotland prepares for devolution and Edinburgh readies itself to house the new Scottish Parliament, prices in the city are on the rise. But as Hamish Scott reports, it pays to know the system and the city.

Edinburgh solicitors do not like to speak of "booms". The legal firms that handle most property transactions north of the border tend to use a more restrained vocabulary than southern estate agents and there has, in any case, never been great call for expressions of excitement about the price of Scottish property.

The dramatic price swings so fa-

have scarcely caused a ripple in Edinburgh or Aberdeen. Even in the past 12 months, as average prices in the South-east have soared by 10.7 per cent, property in Scotland has shown no rise whatsoever, according to the Halifax House Price Index.

As Edinburgh prepares for devolution there are, however, signs that stronger language may be called for. "It's becoming very difficult to bid £151,000 and learnt within four put a value on prime properties," says hours that the flat was hers. Simon Fairclough of the Edinburgh

"You can estimate a flat at £80,000, then see it sell for £150,000." Such extreme examples may be rare, but the ESPC's own figures indicate that prices in the city's prime residential districts have increased by an average of around 16 per cent over the past year.

Buying property in Scotland can be a bewildering experience for English people unfamiliar with the "sealed bid" system. When Stephanie Harvey moved from Wiltshire up to Edinburgh earlier this year, she soon found her ideal home; a three-bedroom flat in the New miliar to homeowners in the South Town with huge high-ceilinged rooms and exquisite Georgian plaster-work that was advertised for of-

fers over £123,000. A survey valuation based on recent prices in the area suggested that the flat was worth £145,000, but when a closing date for bids was fixed, Stephanie's solicitor informed her be competing. On the fateful day she rot and a badly leaking roof.

"It was like shooting in the dark," got it by £100 or paid thousands more

than necessary." Solicitor John Chute emphasises that such competition applies only to properties in prime locations. "The rises we have seen are incredibly selective," he says. "I'd say that some prices have gone up by 20 per cent in the past year, but it's vital to choose not just the right area, or even the

right street, but the right building." With a population of half a million confined between the Pentlands and the Firth of Forth, Prime property: prices are up in the best areas of Edinburgh, but not everywhere Edinburgh is a compact multi-layered city where elegance rubs shoulders with decay. The most magnificent New Town apartment may be sandwiched in between a flat let out to students and a massage parlour. with a "common stair" last decorated in the days of Robert Louis

In 1991 Ian Dunn bought such a flat in Gayfield Square for £71,000. that three other bidders would also The 1800s block suffered from dry



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"The basic work was going to cost location has discouraged speculation in specific areas. each owner £25,000," says Ian. "So I helped to organise a more ambitious scheme for full renovation

that would be eligible for a grant. In the end we each paid £11,000, though I spent another £35,000 on the flat itself." With work just finishing, the block is now immaculate

and Ian has sold his flat for £150,000. Uncertainty over the parliament's extreme. While the waterfront of Ed-

Around Calton Hill, the site that most of Edinburgh would vote for, elegant town houses of ministerial proportions can fetch up to £500,000, though in nearby Montgomery Street a two-bedroom flat may still

be found for under £60,000. In Leith the disparity is still more

inburgh's old port has been transformed by trendy restaurants and conversions, many backstreet tenements still reflect, at least in their ap-

pearance, the town's tough and seedy past. Flats here may be had for under £10,000 and have, to date, shown little sign of any rise in value. Leith is, however, on the up, with the Scot-

tish Office well-established on Vic-

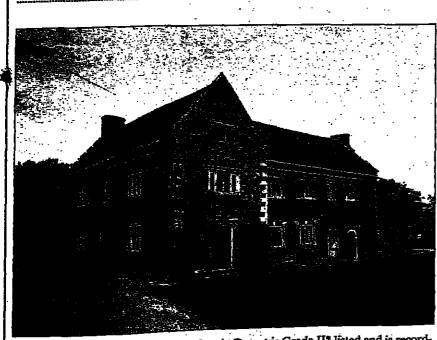
toria Quay and plans for a new Ocean Terminal. According to enthusiasts, this

the Scottish nation in contrast to the bourgeois heritage of central Edin-

Post-Braveheart nationalists may therefore be queuing up to buy the "shell apartments" currently on offer in a former whisky warehouse in Maritime Street at prices of between £45,000 and £145,000. According to the developers, the Leith Loft Company, the apartments offer an opportunity for "adventurous creative spirits to tailor their own space".

So whilst Edinburgh's solicitors will readily admit that current prices indicate a more than usually "sustained and steady growth, they flinch at any mention of a boom. A boom in Edinburgh might mean that the solicitor himself could no longer live in a stately Georgian apartment with views across the rooftops to the hills of Fife, a restaurant at ground level and a handy plumber, or indeed a massage parlour, in the basement. With such a lifestyle to preserve, booms are strictly for the English.

THREE TO VIEW: WITH A * LISTING



The Manor House at Blandford St Mary in Dorset is Grade II* listed and is recorded as early as 1618. The five-bedroom, five reception room house with separate flat has plasterwork and panelling in some of the rooms. There is a partly walled kitchen garden and orchard stocked with apple and cherry trees. Also included in the price is a detached former coach house converted into a two-bedroom cottage. With almost 35 acres, it's for sale through Knight Frank for £675,000 (01935 812236).



Middlethorpe House in the village of Curry Rivel, near Langport in Somerset, is a Eastcote Manor near Barstone, 10 miles from Birmingham, is an Elizabethan Grade Grade II* listed former manor house, with hamstone mullion windows, leaded lights and flagstone floors. Built in the 17th century, with 19th-century additions, the fiveof gardens, it's for sale at £225,000 through Greenslade Taylor Hunt (01458 250589). herd (01564 783866).



II bisted six-bedroom house, which has been restored and refurbished. It has a heated outdoor pool and a two-storey coach house. There are four reception rooms bedroom house has a 20ft reception hall and panelled staircase. There's also a library. and a 22ft kitchen with a two-oven Aga. The dining room overlooks the knot garpanelled dining room, old-fashioned larder and a laundry room. In a third of an acre den, part of the 6.6 acres of grounds. On sale for £635,000 through John Shep-

\$:

minyron

There's no ceiling on a child's imagination



Twenty years ago, mustard and brown dominated children's rooms. Today, the sky's the limit; especially as 'Star Wars' makes a comeback after years of being seen as a naff leftover from the late Seventies. Fiona Brandhorst peeks into the kids' den

Cast your mind back, it's 1970. Luke Skywalker's intergalactic battles were still to be fought but a snapshot of himself proudly man had already landed on the moon. Your bedroom had yet to become an adult-free zone and you were happy with your orange candlewick bedspread. tissue paper roses and Athena air-propelled Squeezy-bottle poster of a fluffy kitten sitting How, so I think my parents let

Then someone, somewhere. decided that children needed a space to call their very own. Your dad had to build you a bunk bed complete with integral strip lighting, shelves and pin board. Star Wars wallpaper was within your grasp and you didn't care if the repeat pattern of ing the planet than I was at that Basil Brush blurred your vision for a week.

Strangely, few children of the Seventies can remember their sense of adventure. Second

is a rare exception. Helped by the fact that he recently found posing in front of his Nasa programme wallpaper, he remembers his space-mad days with understandable nostalgia. "I was always rigging up some space rocket on a string that I'd seen on the TV programme

me have my own way with the wallpaper. Now his six-year-old son goes to sleep deep in the rainforest with endangered species on the prowl around his walls. "William's much more into sav-

age. I was into blowing it up." But that doesn't mean tobedroom. André Montaut, 37. generation Star Wars fans now

London Property

have their own chance to strike back. To mark the trilogy's rerelease, a redesigned Star Wars wallcovering has been launched; it was first available in full Technicolor in 1977.

Demand is expected to be huge but there's already a lot out there to choose from. With a pliable parent, today's child has access to pattern books full of superberoes or television

Each time Disney releases a new film a fully co-ordinated wallcovering collection follows: Aladdin, Pocahontas and now Hercules will be appearing soon on a bedroom wall near you.

It's not a question of whether you want to decorate, it's how often. For parents it poses a dilemma. Should you indulge your child in his or her lat- Indiana Jones ones. Can you get and nights being pirates, train est fad? Mick Atkinson, father them?" Surprisingly, not yet. drivers and skippers - only

of Bruno, 5, doesn't think you need to: "I don't like the socalled traditional stuff. We've got wall hangings from India and South America in Bruno's room and I think the primitive nature of the art does fit quite well in a child's bedroom. It's simple, evocative and very

colourful. I suppose it's adults'

taste but Bruno picked all the

dinosaur posters to go with it." So what would children today choose for their bedrooms it there were no restrictions? Richard Greenhilt, 8, likes the wild animal border he's recently chosen for his room. But he would make changes given a free rein. "I'd love Star Wars had my Mickey Mouse cur-

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different kind of fantasy story. "I chose a border with unicorns, rabbits, fairies and a castle - it was pretty and I like those kinds of things," says Alice. A keen ballet dancer since she was three. Alice would have liked all her bedroom walls covered with ballerinas - if her mother had

So it seems that gender stereotyping is even more evident now than 25 years ago when mustard-yellow and brown had universal sex appeal. Broadly speaking, the 1990s girl appears to prefer pastel colours and Barbie pinks, not to mention Barbie herself and ·wallpaper," he says. "And I've any amount of ballet dancers and floral folksy styles. Boys tains for ages, so I'd rather have choose to spend their days

Star Wars in the Seventies (bottom right, by Vymura) through Beano in the Eightles (right, Vymura) back to a Star Wars revival now; but the alternative in the Nineties is saving endangered species (left, Crown's Go Wild collection)

circus life seems to boy/girl divide. painting children's bedrooms and furniture for around seven years and says it is the creative parents who want something different for their children. "It's the mums who have something in mind and motivate the

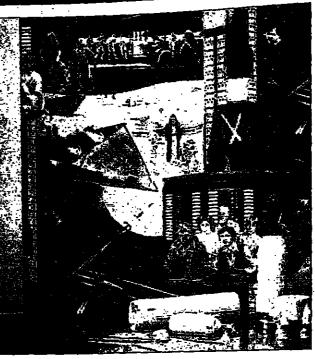
child into liking it too."

Most of the work she does for boys' bedrooms is brightly coloured fish and animals. Younger girls prefer fairies, raggy dolls and flowers. "I work all over the South-east and contrary to popular belief the. wackiest people definitely live in Essex," says Tanetta. "They want everything bigger and bolder than anywhere else and they're not afraid to go over the top. The colours are all raspberry, lime green and tangerine with lots of sparkly paint for the

However, you can never predict what a child will choose. Tanetta's daughter has just plumped for a bold ready-printed wallpaper in preference to one of her mum's hand-painted designs. Who knows, the orange candlewick bedspread may yet make a return.

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When it's best to move lenders

at the time. A fixed-rate mortgage, pegged at an attractively low level. Except, it is now coming to an end. What do you do? Should you fix again? Will you be allowed to? Nic Cicutti flooks at the options.

Cast your mind back just two or three years ago. For hundreds of thousands of borrowers, that period was a golden age, when it was possible to fix a home loan for three, four and five years at rates as low as 4.99 per cent for shorter-end mortgages.

Of course, the low rates had more than a little to do with the fact that, with first-time buyers scarce on the ground, lenders were desperate to poach each other's business.

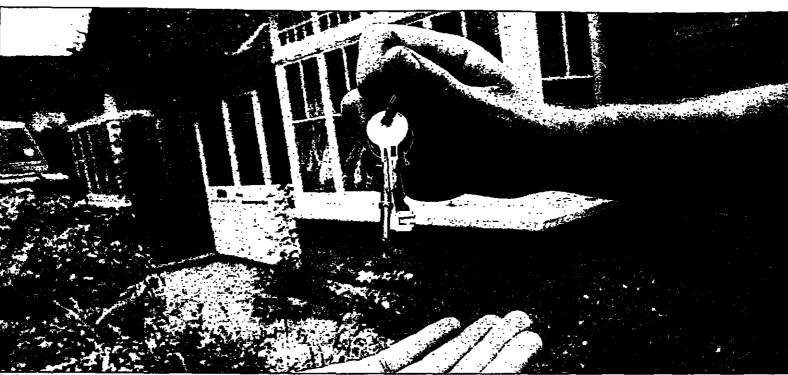
But in the intervening period, for many the gamble has paid off. With variable rate mortgages back up to 8.45 per cent and, so the experts say, destined to go even higher, that fix in 1994 has meant considerable savings since then.

The really testing question is hat of what to do now. The genration of borrowers coming out of their present fixes face the cossibility of variable rates that nay be up to double the payneuts they have been making ip until recently.

or a new - and competitive ixed rate to stabilise payments it levels they know will apply for any," Mr Deutsch says. "When ome years to come, or the opion of moving elsewhere if need be. If so, they face diffiulties.

Simon Tyler, a director at Thase de Vere Mortgages, a ed period. Jurtgage broking firm in Lonlon, says: "Thousands of peode who locked into very other lender within a relative--ome out of them now.

rom their lender. Nor is it mive fix to people coming out of kely that their lender will offer one because they have calcu-



them as attractive rates as they would to new borrowers."

Nor is it that easy to switch lenders. According to Nick Deutsch, chief executive at FirstMortgage, a telephonebased home loans provider, the difficulty lies in what borrowers signed up to at the time of that bargain deal.

"There has always been some form of penalty for re-For them, the need is often paying a mortgage carly but up to three years or so ago there was very little 'overhang' if you took out a fixed rate mortgage, the chances were thatany redemption penalty did not extend that far beyond the length of the fixed or discount-

> "This meant that once it was over, you could move to an-

difficult to do so. "The problem they have is - "Some lenders are less keen ne of how to get a good deal -on offering a new and competlated their costs on the basis that use this to their advantage, by borrowers will stay with them for six or seven years."

Another reason for many lenders' reticence to offer attractive new deals to existing borrowers, particularly among building societies, is that they taken out through Barclays face restrictions on how they raise money to lend. Because it comes largely out of savers' deposits, they will tend to offer new borrowers the best deals.

Not everyone is in the same boat. Many other bank-style lenders are relatively unencumbered with the need to use wholesale funding from the money markets to finance new rounds of lending. Jim Chadwick, marketing

director at Barclays Mortgages. says: "When customers take out a fixed-rate mortgage with us, we make it clear that we may ttractive rates are starting to ly short time. Today, it is more be able to offer them a new rate at the end of their fixed term.

"This gives them the confidence and peace of mind of being able to budget ahead. Indeed, many of our customers makes this an even better deal."

taking up a number of successive fixed rates with us." Matthew and Marie Dennis,

a young couple living in Bedford, did just that. Their first £50,000 repayment-style loan, Mortgages in March 1995, was pegged at 5.99 per cent for one year. Thereafter, the couple moved straight on to a 18month deal, fixed at 7.25 per

Recently, when the time came to consider the options once again, they went for another fix, this time for 10 years at 7.99 per cent.

Mr Dennis, a financial adviser working for an insurance company, explains: "We wanted the security of knowing what our payments would be for a while ahead and thought that a penalty for doing so. this would be the best move. Aithough interest rates may well come down next year, they are quite likely to go up in the intervening period, which

His wife Marie adds: "We rent variable rate of 8 per cent. didn't want to gamble, but it is The other is a fixed rate pegged worth noting that this rate is beat 6.15 on loans of up to 90 per low the existing variable rate cent of a home's value. anyway. And with this loan, we

Mr Deutsch advises doing did not have to pay an extra your sums before you move: 'Say you are on a variable rate of 8.25 per cent and you get the chance of a two-year fixed deal at 4.99 per cent. The saving will deal by their lender, although inbe 6.5 per cent over those two creasingly, those lenders who "Now, say there is a re-

deruption penalty of six months' interest on your loan. That works out at 4.125 per cent. Even after legal and arrangement fees, plus a new valuation, you will still be significantly in the black. Sometimes the mathematics do speak in favour of moving your loan."

The Independent has published a free 27-page Guide to Mortgages, written by Nic Cicutti, the paper's personal finance editor. The guide, sponsored by Barclays Mongages, is available to all readers by calling 0800 585691. knocks 2.05 per cent off a cur- Or fill in the coupon on page 4.



PENNY JACKSON

Gazumping is no problem unless it happens to you

Gazumping is not nearly as ber of available homes is much of a problem as every- more than 30 per cent down one thinks, according to on last year and Black Black Horse Agencies. It Horse concludes that the has monitored the subject for market has "paused for its latest Home Report, out breath". vesterday, and says that it is surprised to find gazumping occurs in only 5 per cent of all sales in England.

No one who is a victim of gazumping will feel any better for knowing that, but the real culprits of the piece and Chelsea. It says that seem to be buyers who pull sub-standard properties are out. Apparently an average 12 per cent go back on their word and are the cause of almost three-quarters of collapsed sales.

Whether it is buyers or sellers (5 per cent) who pull out, the effect is to almost double the time it takes to agree a sale. The report shows that homes are selling in 12 weeks or less on average - the fastest time since the surveys started.

One in seven homes are even selling in a week or less and half in six weeks or less. The hot-spots, with a time of two weeks, are St Albans, Alton in Hampshire, Chelsea and Wells in Somerset.

Scotland makes a debut appearance with an average where it takes an average 19 weeks. Nationally, 96 per cent of the asking price is achieved and the Black hit." Horse average property sells for £79,000. First time buyers make up 31 per cent and the lowest average price they pay is £40,000 in Scotland and the highest £72,000 in the South-east. The num-respect property."

Ironsides, a residential letting agency, is warning that high London rents are driving would-be tenants away from their traditional haunts in Knightsbridge, Kensington often marketed at prime prices. Jacqueline Ironside says over-optimistic rents

'Over-optimistic rents in London are in danger of "killing the goose" -Far East nationals'

are in danger of "killing the goose", namely nationals from the Far East.

So far buyers from the region show no signs of losing interest in the London market but Ms Ironside believes that many are, in fact, experiencing difficulties. She likens the belief in sustainof 11 weeks. The slowest re- able increases in rents to the gion is the North-west madness of the Eighties sales boom. "This time, if we wait until the music stops, it is the rental market that will be

> She adds: "It is the best kind of corporate tenant who most objects to inflated prices. These are the tenants who pay the rent on time, take up options to renew and

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He is the most charismatic car company boss in the world, which is appropriate, given that he runs the most charismatic name in motoring. At 50, he is exactly the same age as the Ferrari company, too.

He is handsome and stylish, as you'd expect, and his English is fluent. usually supported by energetic hand

Like his uncle, Fiat boss Gianni Agnelli, Luca di Montezemolo talks romantically but, as with all good managers, he is a rationalist at heart. And his management record is superb. His first stint at Ferrari, from 1973-77, was as manager of the Formula One team. He was just 25 when he started. Two world championships later, both with Nikki Lauda as driver, he left to manage other wings of the Fiat empire, including La Stampa newspaper. He then organised Italia '90 -Italy's hosting of the football World Cup - before rejoining Ferrari, in 1991, as chairman and managing director.

Since then, Ferrari's F1 team has been transformed, from highly rescourced also-rans into challengers, this weekend, for the world driver's championship, with Michael Schumacher at the wheel. And Ferrari's road car business is flourishing, with a range of well-made yet beautiful sports cars selling in 40 different countries. Di Montezemolo had not long returned from Egypt, the marque's newest market, when we met, and spoke enthusiastically about how mechanics from mainland China are

expects to sell just over 400 cars here America and Germany. Total Ferrari





this year, which is not bad when the cheapest model costs almost £100,000. This year, for the first time, more Fernow being trained to work on Ferraris. raris will be sold in Britain than in Italy. UK sales are also booming. Ferrari The UK is number three, behind

One for the usual, will leave before the race. "I preroad: Luca di fer practice and qualifying and find I Montezemolo can be more useful then. And this speaks weekend there's another reason for romantically, leaving early. I doubt whether my but is a nerves could stand it." rationalist at

heart. He has

inspired the

550 Maranello

largely

(left),

production, says di Montezemolo, is

in Jerez, Spain. Di Montezemolo will

attend practice and qualifying but, as

But most of the conversation was

now capped at 3,500-4,000 a year.

Ferrari's

He sees motor racing as crucial to Ferrari's prestige and image. "We are the only manufacturer in Fl who makes our own cars and engines. That puts a tremendous financial and technical burden on us, but it helps with our road cars and it certainly helps with our reputation. Ferrari needs to be in GP racing. We've done it since the world championship began in 1950 and in a way it's a prison for us: about this weekend's final Grand Prix we can't get out."

Di Montezemolo has unstinting praise for his driver, Michael Schu-

macher. "He is the world's best driver, but Ferrari does not have the world's best Fl racing car - Williams does. But I think we have the best overall team, in strategy, planning and pitstops. Next year, when the rules change in many big ways, I think we might have the best car, too."

L'Avvocato, as he's known by many at Ferrari (the advocate, or lawyer). also rates highly Schumacher's teammate Eddie Irvine, Fl racing's most famous bad boy. "He's a super guy. I first met him years ago, when we thought he might be a good driver for us. Straight after we were introduced, before another word passed, Irvine - a Ferrari owner - said: 'Your spares are too bloody expensive.' I really respected him for that. It shows he has a great sense of humour." (As to whether it caused di Montezemolo to investigate his spare part prices, I didn't have the wit to ask.)

Ferrari's newest model, inspired very much by di Montezemolo, is the 550 Maranello. It is gorgeous, rather than head-turningly extravagant, more in keeping with these softer, gentler times. It also has a front-engine, whereas Ferrari's range-topping sports cars for the past 20 years have had midengines, in the Fl style.

"I wanted a front engine because it is more practical. It makes for roomier cabins and better packaging. We must increase the usability and practicality of Ferraris." Not that the speed factor has been dimmed. The 550 Maranello is faster and better handling than any of its predecessors and is already being spoken of as one of the greatest sports cars of all time. Di Montezemolo is also pleased that it is popular in colours other than Ferrari red. "Some people find the red a bit too loud. I like red. But not everybody does."

Not that di Montezemolo is going to take Ferrari too far down the subtie, practical route. "These are very emotional cars. The emotion of dring – that's what Ferrari is all about."

And you can't belp thinking that the company couldn't be in better hands.

GAVIN GREEN

Diana's legacy

There were many good causes which Princess Diana supported during her life: the Red Cross, Aids sufferers, the landmines ban. Yet her death highlighted another - and it could be one of her finest legacies.

From what I've seen and experienced, there is now a sharp increase in the number of people who wear their rear seat belts.

Had Diana fastened her belt she would, very probably, be alive today. Despite the absurd speed, and the unyielding nature of the concrete barrier her car hit in Paris, there is probably no safer place to be in a crash than the rear compartment of a Mercedes S-class. But only if you're wearing a belt.

In the past fortnight, I've noticed two examples of habitual back-seat non-belt wearers reaching for their buckles.

Back benchers in higger cars, often 4x4s it seemed to me, have been particularly resistant in the past. It's as though they felt so protected by their vehicle's bulk. that the belt became irrelevant. Such thinking is, of course, absurd. Big off-roaders may look safer, owing to their size; but tests suggest that in a big accident, if you're untethered you're going to fly around that cab-

in like a dice in a shaker. Unharnessed kids in the

back of cars particularly terrify me. I've never seen the police pull over such negligent drivers, although Pm sure it's happened. Perhaps poor Diana has now taught them better.

Another mistake is holding your child while you're belted up, or - just as bad putting your child on your lap, with the belt over both of you. In the first case you'll never manage to hold on, not in a big crash. In the second instance, you'll squash your infant. Can you imagine a worse way to lose

I also partly blame the car makers, the legislators and the police for our relaxed attitude to seat-belt wearing.: Every day we see untethered passengers, especially in the back, with the police mostly rurning a blind eye.

Dashboard airbags, side airbags, anti-submarine seats, door safety bars they're all useful tools in protecting us, and we increasingly demand them from our new cars.

And it's so easy, once ensconced in the cosy and relaxed cockpit of a modern car to feel at ease, and so utterly safe. But it is partly an illusion. None is as effective as the seat belt, the greatest. single safety boon of all. and - like most great inventions - so marvellously

A competent car right off the shelf

It has been said that cars are taking on the mantle of supermarket consumables. John Simister finds out if there is anything more to the Daewoo Leganza, while below james Ruppert asks: are second-hand Daewoos good value?

Well, you can now buy a Daewoo at Sainsbury's, along with your daewooly bread. Three new showrooms have just opened at the ubiquitous grocers' Savacentre stores. Daewoo's first offerings on

the UK market were lukewarm reworkings of the previous-generation Vauxhall Cavalier and Astra - the Espero and Nexia respectively. This year, however, Daewoo has built three new cars of its own making. The third car, the Leganza, is by far the best Daewoo to date.

The 2.0-litre engine is tractable but not memorably refined, the four-speed automatic (there is a manual too) works well but won't be worrying the boffins at Honda, the ride is compliant enough but won't astonish anyone, the handling and steering feel are actually quite commendable but can't match a Mondco's ... I could go on, but the point is that this is a totally innocuous motor car. If that is a criticism (it won't be, to many) then it's

《大学》,在一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们 《大学》,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,我们是一个人,

not one exclusive to Daewoo. No, it's a wholly competent car, and that's what puts it in

It has some especially good points, too - it's surprisingly roomy and the equipment is generous, extending to twin airbags, anti-lock brakes, air conditioning, electric everything including driver's seat control and a decent radio-cassette player. Leather is available, and the CDX tested here features wood trim of a type not available from any tree yet discovered.

Interior design remains something of a grey area, but then it does in most Japanese cars. The dash is well stocked and the driving position, with lumbar adjustment and tilting seat and wheel, is day-long

bone of contention with the Leganza and its stablemates the gritty business of resale val-

ue. Residual values for the new-wave Daewoos are predicted to be better, but in any case the company would be quick to point to the low cost of overall ownership in its favour. There is no doubt that, as-yet-unknown depreciation apart, the Leganza is remarkably good value. The less well-equipped - though not by much - SX, a roomier car than the Vauxhall Vectra, weighs in at £13,795 with, remember, everything thrown in. The CDX gives you a fiver's

spend that on the vegetables. Specifications Daewoo Leganza Prices: SX £13,795, CDX £14,995 on the road. Engine: 1998cc transverse inline four, 4 valves per cylinder,

132bhp. Four-speed auto-There remains only onematic transmission or fivespeed manual. Performance (manual): top speed 128mph.

your

Leganza: a

good, solid

Sainsbury's

groceries

Ford Mondeo 1.6 Aspen

fuel consumption 30.7mpg.

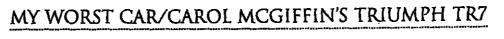
Price: £13,765 The Mondeo is still the best all-round package in its class and it's dynamics humble the Daewoo's, but in this Aspen guise it will seem spartan and it isn't as roomy as the Leganza. Look at spending another £4,000 to match the Leganza SX's equipment and engine.

Toyota Carina E 1.8GS Price: £14,335

Ordinary but well made, with a smooth powerplant and a reputation for longevity. Made in England, too.

Fiat Marea 2.0 ELX Price: £14,647

A bit characterless for a Fiat, but will feel special in this company. The engine is a gem, but the package is let



I absolutely love cars, always have done. However, there was one that almost put me off the whole idea of motoring. It was a Triumph TR7, my very first sports car, and almost my last.

I can clearly remember seeing the car parked on a dealer's forecourt in Maidstone. It was a 1976 model and finished in white. I just fell in love with it. I suppose. So the next day I just had to go back and buy it.

Now the Triumph was a highly uncool sports car at the time, but I had visious of McGiffin sparking a TR7 revival. You know, a future classic with a high price to match, Instead I paid a lowly £750 for what was a very shabby sports car. Mind you, the price included a comprehensive warranty for one year. which, it turned out, was



worth absolutely nothing.

It all started to go wrong almost straight away. I paid the money, got in the car and began to drive back home to London. After a few miles, it got slower and slower. I knew something was wrong because the temperature gauge was going mad. I finally stopped and there was steam and water everywhere. Not surprisingly

the engine had seized. What a complete nightmare, stranded by the side of the road with a useless used car. Just as bad, though, was trying to get it fixed once I got the TR7 towed to a garage.The cooling system seemed to fox just about every so-called expert, but that didn't

stop them charging me a for-

tune for failing to repair it. In the end I got fed up with

the car because it was proving to be so unreliable and expensive to keep going, so I tried to sell it. The only person whoshowed any interest was Chris Evans. In fact, he nearly didn't buy it and wanted to back out of the deal. I had to threaten him by saying "I know people". That did the trick and he soon handed over the money, just

The whole TR7 experience did not put me off sports cars though. I went straight out and bought another one, which turned out to be just as bad. It was a 1985 Fiat X1/9, but for some strange reason had a G

Carol McGiffin is co-presenter of Talk Radio's breakfast show, 6.30 -9am. She was speaking to James Ruppert.

Sectland may r

defence for

Angry dealers, but little depreciation

Daewoos started to dip dramatically in value in the summer of 96 when an agreement with a distributor to resell used models foundered. Caledonia Motors was worried about Daewoo's anti-dealer advertising.

The sharks (sorry, dealers) have quickly taken their revenge, with dealers in Northamptonshire vowing to boycott a local car show if Daewoo turned up, and a dealer in Sideup even advertising the fact that no Daewoos are acceptable as part exchanges.

Being classed as "doubtful stock" by the trade car price guide, Glass's, did not help.

Prices for all models slumped by a massive 10 per cent in March and again in April. In May, however, Daewoo finally managed to sign up a numher of independent dealers to sell their used cars.

Daewoos are unremarkable cars but are well-proven and reliable, with no major faults. They come with driver's airbags, side impact protection, ABS brakes, immobilisers and even mobile phones. All models from May 1996

have air conditioning.

Actually trying to find used Daewoos on sale is not that easy. Popping into Daewoo's showroom in Norwich re-

GLi batchback in white. The mileage was a very low 7,800 and the asking price at £6,595 was much higher than the trade price. It was a similar story with a 15,000-mile 1996 1.5 GLXi Espero which, at £6,745, may have had air conditioning, but was £1,000 more than a 10,000-mile example in the trade price guides.

vealed an N-registered Nexia

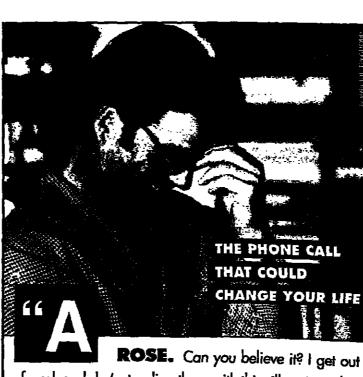
change from £15,000. You can

Private buyers are also asking for more. A 1995 Nexia automatic for £6,995 in Surrey was too expensive, as was a 1995 Espero at £9,500. However, I looked at a green 1996 Nexia GLXI in North London, with just 8,300 miles on the clock and an asking price of £6,000. That seemed like incredible value for a low mileage, year-old car with air

Even so, the seller had been offered less than £4,000 by dealers to purchase the car outright. He thought £6,000 was reasonable for a little-used car which cost over £10,000 the previous year. It was difficult to disagree and for once the price asked undercut the trade

The conclusion has to be that a used Daewoo is worth considering. Hurry though, because the era of the cheap, used Daewoo will soon pass.

MOTORING



of work and she's standing there with this silly grin on her face, holding a rose. She says it's for our one week anniversary. Yeah, I could get used to this. ""

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